

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 MARCH 1987

Lebanon

Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite is being held in the Iranian Embassy in West Beirut, the Soviet paper *Literaturnaya Gazeta* announced in its forthcoming 18 March edition. The paper said it obtained this information from its own enquiries.

In another development, Shi'ite cleric Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din told a Beirut newspaper that he has conducted "arduous negotiations" to save the life of French hostage Jean-Louis Normandin, AFP reported. Shams al-Din, the deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Council, said that Normandin "will probably be saved," though he noted that no promises have been made in this regard.

Amal and Palestinian gunmen continued to exchange fire in the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah areas, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported, noting a Palestinian statement that three people were killed and four wounded in the refugee camps 16 March.

Syria

Comment on U.S. — Damascus radio viewed U.S. interest in an international peace conference for the Middle East as an attempt to divert public attention from the internal "scandals" that have made President Reagan "perhaps the weakest President in the history of the United States." However, President Reagan is not the initiator of the call for an international conference and his administration will not be able to "exploit" the proposal to cleanse its reputation from the "dirt" of successive scandals, the commentary added.

Budget Cut — The state budget for 1987 provides for a 4.87 percent cut in government spending, the finance minister disclosed in a statement to the People's Assembly reported by Damascus television. Budget allocations will be matched more realistically with available resources, he said, and the emphasis will be on self-reliance.

Israel

"Private elements" in Israel financed trial expenses for the Pollards, but the Israeli Government "did not transfer any money whatsoever" to aid them, Jerusalem radio revealed.

In another report, the radio noted that Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin believes some U.S. officials "are deliberately keeping the Pollard affair alive in a mistaken effort to find other Israeli intelligence agents."

Saudi Arabia-Morocco

Saudi King Fahd, who arrived in Morocco 12 March, held talks with King Hassan II in Fes 15 March, Rabat radio announced.

Sudan

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati concluded his visit to Sudan 16 March, SUNA reported. According to a Sudanese Foreign Ministry statement on the visit, a normalization of relations with Tehran "will not be at the expense of Sudanese relations with Iraq," SUNA added.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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'Arafat Interviewed on Palestinian Affairs*JN130940 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 11 Mar 87 p 17*

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, by correspondent Basimah Nafadi in Tunis — date not given]

[Text] *Al-Ittihad*: Brother Abu 'Ammar, we have noticed that national unity has effectively been realized on the ground in the camps.

'Arafat: This is the case in the occupied territories and the Palestinian camps.

Al-Ittihad: It has been realized in the occupied territories and everywhere, but not on the level of Palestinian factions and organizations?

'Arafat: This is not national unity. This is a dialogue to reach agreement on a future political program to entrench national unity. This is the true picture. We always have said the Palestinian leaderships must be a match for the mature Palestinian people. One must not confuse national unity with political dialogue among Palestinian organizations for reaching an agreement on a political program to pave the way for convening the PNC. Many meetings took place, called for by Algeria and sponsored by some friends. These meetings took place in Tunis, Algiers, Prague, and Moscow. Such meetings are currently taking place in Libya.

Al-Ittihad: Is Libya working to make specific organizations join the dialogue for national unity?

'Arafat: I would like to reiterate that the question is not one of national unity. I would like this to be understood. The question is one of dialogue. Yes, there are specific organizations that Libya is seeking to have join the dialogue. We thanked the Libyan brothers for this. They told us they will exert efforts with all factions that did not attend the meetings, whether in Moscow, Prague, or Algiers. We told them we welcome all factions because our decision is to conduct dialogue with all.

Al-Ittihad: Is it possible to name these Palestinian factions?

'Arafat: A meeting will be held with the PFLP in the next 2 weeks.

Al-Ittihad: But is not one of the conditions set by other factions that the expanded dialogue must take place on the eve of the PNC meetings?

'Arafat: This dialogue will take place, God willing.

Al-Ittihad: When will the PNC convene?

'Arafat: I believe in the first half of this year.

Al-Ittihad: In April?

'Arafat: It would be difficult for it to convene in April. We hope it will convene in April; I do not believe, however, that we can

complete our dialogue in this short time, although everything has been prepared for holding the PNC session.

Al-Ittihad: Will the PNC political talks focus on the Aden-Algiers agreement and on the documents of the meetings that took place in Algiers, Prague, and Moscow?

'Arafat: I cannot tell you on what the talks will focus. What I can say is that the PNC will certainly discuss the results of the final dialogue that will take place in the expanded dialogue meeting, and the talks will be based on the constants approved by the various PNC sessions.

Al-Ittihad: Brother Abu 'Ammar, the Brussels communique issued by the EEC did not mention the PLO by name, though it referred to the June 1980 Venice Declaration. What is your assessment of this communique?

'Arafat: I consider this communique a positive step. I thanked many of the European friends for the efforts they exerted to issue such a communique. The mere mention of the Venice Declaration in this communique means that the Europeans have set important bases for an international conference, because the Venice Declaration refers to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to the PLO's representation as a basic factor. The Venice Declaration did not say sole representative. This is a very advanced step.

Al-Ittihad: Do you believe Europe could put pressure on the United States for holding an international conference?

'Arafat: Europe has an important role to play. However, I do not believe it can influence the U.S. Administration. Luckily, the U.S. Administration is busy with its scandals, whether the Iran-gate scandal or the scandal of the lies by U.S. Administration officials that have been discovered by the U.S. people.

Al-Ittihad: But you said a change will take place in the U.S. stand on the Palestinian cause. We have started to notice such a change, particularly during Shamir's recent visit to the United States. It became clear for the first time that the United States and Israel have conflicting stands toward an international conference. When you said a change will take place in the U.S. stand, were there signs to indicate this?

'Arafat: Politics has nothing to do with astrology. Politics is the science of facts that are created by visible or invisible events and the ability of any leader to assess the invisible events to enable him to analyze the situation accurately. We have said this before. I used to analyze the U.S. facts and where they would lead. I also analyze international facts and where they will lead.

The United States waged a violent onslaught against the Palestinian people and the PLO in 1972, 1981, and 1982, and it continues to do so. The United States believed the PLO no longer existed. This was stated by former Israeli Prime Minister Begin, by President Reagan, by Henry Kissinger, and by Brzezinski, who said "bye-bye PLO".

The PLO returned, however, to become the basic and most difficult figure in the Middle East equation. Based on all this, the

U.S. Administration cannot but deal with realities. The PLO has emerged as a reality in the region. They believed they would be able to liquidate the PLO in 1986.

Al-Ittihad: Do you believe Syrian forces entered Beirut to reaffirm Syria's role in Lebanon and in any future international conference following reports that Syria would be excluded from such a conference?

'Arafat: This is not possible. Syria could not be excluded from an international conference — whether it is Syria under Al-Asad or Syria under any other leader — because Syria has an occupied land. Syria, therefore, must be present at an international conference. We are not disturbed over the Syrian forces' entry into Beirut so long as they abide by the conditions on types of weapons, the size of their forces, and the nature of their mission. The Syrians abided by the condition on the size of their forces.

The Israeli chief of staff and Rabin said the Syrians do not disturb Israel and will not affect it so long as they abide by the conditions, which include, among others, that they do not bring surface-to-air missiles into Beirut. The second requirement is that these forces must implement the agreement on striking at fundamentalists, releasing hostages, and striking at the PLO. This means the battle is still at its beginning.

Al-Ittihad: Does this mean you expect developments with respect to the Palestinian camps?

'Arafat: Of course. Have I not the right to ask the Arab nation why the camps have been excluded from the security plan in Beirut? Why does shelling continue against the camps, particularly against Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah? Why do the Syrian forces, which say they are removing armed men from the streets of Beirut, not remove armed men from around the Palestinian camps? They claim Burj al-Barajinah is in the southern suburb of Beirut. What about Shatila? The plan is clear. The Syrian forces are present around the Shatila camp, in the sports city, near the Kuwaiti Embassy, in the Acre Hospital, in the Shatila and airport traffic circles, and in the Beirut Arab University.

The Syrian forces are protecting the Amal forces that have established the first belt around the Shatila camp. With respect to Burj al-Barajinah, the Syrian forces say they control the airport road and are stationed on the airport road. Does not Burj al-Barajinah overlook the airport road? Its western side is the airport road. How can the Syrian forces control the airport road and allow Amal to shell Burj al-Barajinah with their tanks? The Syrian forces are also present on the southern side of the camp. What does this mean?

Al-Ittihad: Has this been submitted to the seven-member Arab committee?

'Arafat: Yes, in all its aspects.

Al-Ittihad: What progress has been made in this regard?

'Arafat: The committee will issue a statement and important recommendations when it concludes its meetings. The statement will urge continued efforts and provide for contacts with the

Syrian Government on implementing the security plan, given that the presence of Syrian troops in Beirut will serve to facilitate establishing security in the capital and its suburbs.

Al-Ittihad: You called for an urgent meeting of the Arab League Ministerial Council. Why have you abandoned the idea?

'Arafat: We thought the seven-member committee could move and meet faster than Arab foreign ministers. There is a ministerial council meeting coming up anyway. Besides, the seven-member committee was empowered by and acts on behalf of the ministerial council. We have said that if the committee deems a meeting of the council of foreign ministers necessary, it will be acting within its rights. The meeting was extremely important and took up all details. We placed all these facts before the committee as well as all the evidence and documents in our possession.

Al-Ittihad: Do you think the last visit to Cairo by Israeli's Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres could produce any results?

'Arafat: It cannot yield any results.

Al-Ittihad: Do you think the visit will further widen the gap between the Likud and Labor Parties, which make up the ruling coalition in Israel?

'Arafat: There is no choice between the two parties. The Likud and Labor are two faces of one coin. Did you know it was when Labor was in office that all the tragedies befell Palestine? We do not fall for the myth that Labor is better than Likud or vice versa. Both are equally hostile to the Palestinian people, occupying their land and other Arab territory. Whatever differences there are between them do not go beyond tone and tactics. While Likud unashamedly hits with an iron fist, Labor conceals it with velvet but hits just as cruelly.

Al-Ittihad: You have said more than once the PLO recognizes all UN resolutions, including 242 and 338. So why do you not officially recognize them?

'Arafat: As a member of the United Nations, we recognize all the resolutions passed by the world body without exception. I have said this more than once. During the siege of Beirut I put my signature to what I said; namely, that we recognize all UN resolutions related to the Palestine question. All the PNC sessions also did so. I have been chosen on the strength of political programs approved by the PNC. I must abide by these programs or else step down.

Al-Ittihad: Regarding the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee meetings held in Amman in February, is it true the Jordanians denied a meeting took place then between Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i?

'Arafat: Abu Jihad did not go to Amman to meet any Jordanian official other than those on the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee. The committee met three times, and as soon as it concluded its meetings, he left Amman. It was not on his agenda to meet with anyone; neither did he ask to meet with any officials. Abu Jihad went to Amman on a specific mission

for a specific meeting. Once these were accomplished he left Amman.

Al-Ittihad: Is this to say Jordanian-Palestinian coordination is not on the agenda now?

'Arafat: Your question was about Abu Jihad's visit and not about Jordanian-Palestinian coordination.

Al-Ittihad: But what is the future of Jordanian-Palestinian relations?

'Arafat: When King Husayn and I met on the sidelines of the ICO summit in Kuwait, we agreed to turn over a new leaf. We agreed to reactivate the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee in the interest of the steadfastness of our people in the occupied land. There will be further contacts to discuss bilateral relations as well as Arab and international issues.

Al-Ittihad: However, while on a visit to Amman for the talks, Brother Hani al-Hasan said he came to Jordan with the task of restoring coordination between Jordan and the PLO.

'Arafat: Hani al-Hasan carries out the instructions of the Palestinian leadership. He was sent to Jordan on the basis of the decision to turn over a new leaf, and we had agreed with King Husayn to do so.

Al-Ittihad: Does that mean Hani al-Hasan's mission was different from Abu Jihad's mission?

'Arafat: Of course. Each of them had a mission.

Al-Ittihad: Then coordination has returned?

'Arafat: As I have said, it was not a return to coordination but to turn over a new leaf in relations between Jordan and the PLO.

Al-Ittihad: To what extent?

'Arafat: I cannot say to what extent, for love has to be mutual; both sides must be willing.

Al-Ittihad: Does that mean there is no Jordanian readiness at present?

'Arafat: That will depend on the results of the talks we will hold with our Jordanian brothers. We have the intention and the desire to strengthen Palestinian-Jordanian relations.

Al-Ittihad: Despite the Jordanian development plan for the occupied territories?

'Arafat: I have confidence in our people, absolute confidence. A Jordanian-Palestinian agreement to support steadfastness is no accident, for it is an implementation of the Arab resolution to support our people's steadfastness through Arab resolutions and Arab support.

Al-Ittihad: Was the Saudi payment of \$9.5 million to the [Jordanian-Palestinian] committee in implementation of that policy?

'Arafat: An installment.

Al-Ittihad: Was that a kind of indirect support for the Jordanian-Palestinian committee?

'Arafat: It was not merely financial support; it was also a stand. It was a stand adopted by King Fahd, the custodian of the two holy mosques, to support Jordanian-Palestinian joint action in the occupied territories.

Al-Ittihad: Does that mean a kind of rejection of the Jordanian development plan for the occupied territories?

'Arafat: Not at all. However, I will tell you what I and His Majesty King Fahd agreed upon — namely to support such joint [Palestinian-Jordanian] action.

Al-Ittihad: Brother Abu 'Ammar, is there common ground for resuming dialogue with Syria despite all that has happened?

'Arafat: Of course there is common ground for such dialogue — namely, fighting Israel in deed and not merely with slogans; halting involvement in the U.S.-Israeli plan against the Arab nation; and halting the balkanization, the sectarian divisions, and the sectarian cantons in Lebanon. There is common ground in having a joint stand on all Arab issues, including the Gulf war.

Such common ground is the basis laid down by Arab summits and Arab foreign ministers meetings and laid down by the Arab nation in conjunction with the Muslim nation at Islamic summits or at nonaligned summits. Resolutions adopted at Arab, Islamic, and nonaligned summits are almost similar. All the resolutions adopted at Arab summits were confirmed at Islamic and non-aligned summits. Even the Fes summit plan adopted in 1982 was approved by Islamic and nonaligned summits. There are constant factors and bases that remain unchanged.

Al-Ittihad: Does Syria oppose convening an Arab summit?

'Arafat: It is the major obstacle. There are minor obstacles, but Syria is the major obstacle.

Al-Ittihad: What is the Palestinian plan in Lebanon and what does the Palestinian revolution want from Lebanon?

'Arafat: Protecting the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, safeguarding Palestinians' right to live as citizens like the Lebanese until the Palestinian people are able to return to their usurped land, safeguarding Lebanon's territorial integrity and the unity of its people and institutions, and opposing the U.S.-Israeli sectarian plan in Lebanon, which threatens not only the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, but the entire Arab nation. These are the main pillars of our plan in Lebanon.

Al-Ittihad: Is it not strange to change Palestinian-Lebanese alliances?

'Arafat: Which alliances?

Al-Ittihad: The alliances with Junblatt, then with Hizballah, and then with the Lebanese authorities.

'Arafat: Since I moved out of Lebanon in 1982, we have been implementing a decision to turn over a new page with all parties. What constituted a difference with any Lebanese side was terminated along with the 1982 exodus. We have turned over a new page with everyone.

Al-Ittihad: What about reconsidering the 1969 Cairo agreements, canceling them, and working out new agreements?

'Arafat: We are ready to reconsider the Cairo agreement and its appendices, which are numerous because whenever an issue arose we worked out an appendix that explained it. We are ready under the new situation with the legitimate authorities to work out a new explanation in a way that conforms with the interests of both Lebanon and the Palestinian people.

Al-Ittihad: An Israeli newspaper said there will be Palestinian meetings with oriental Jews and announced dates for these meetings. It also said you will lead one of the delegations along with Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] in Paris on 20 March, that another meeting will be held in Cairo, and that a meeting will be held in Hungary. How true is this?

'Arafat: I swear by God this is the first time I have heard such talk. I would appreciate it if you would give me the text of this story to discuss it, as I have no knowledge of the subject. Known meetings take place with progressive and democratic forces in Israel. These meetings have already taken place and a decision to this effect was adopted by our PNC in Cairo in 1974. We will continue to hold contacts with these forces.

Al-Ittihad: Does this mean that, following the Bucharest meeting, other meetings will be held?

'Arafat: There are continuous contacts inside and outside the occupied territory. We meet with these progressive Israeli forces at conferences, and we attend every meeting of any party in the socialist countries. The Israeli Rakah Party also attends such meetings, and meetings are held between us and members of this party. This is an example. It must be known that these meetings between us and the democratic and progressive movement in Israel do not take place whenever they and we are present, stopping whatever occasion we are attending.

Al-Ittihad: Brother Abu 'Ammar, I did not mean these meetings. I meant meetings that are scheduled in advance, such as the Bucharest meeting, which you did not attend due to illness.

'Arafat: It so happened I could not attend that meeting. Our program does not yet contain such a meeting, and when a similar meeting is planned we will announce it.

Al-Ittihad: The Israeli newspaper *Davar* said there is a plan to establish cantons in the West Bank and Gaza Strip similar to the Swiss confederation or there will be a form of administrative rule to be given to the Arab inhabitants.

'Arafat: This is only a beautification of the Palestinian Camp David. Our aim is to establish our Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. If I had to choose between my homeland and paradise, it would be a difficult choice.

PLO Executive Committee Meets, Discusses Unity *JN161638 Doha QNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] Tunisia, 16 Mar (QNA) — The PLO Executive Committee and the PNC Presidency have expressed satisfaction with the results reached at the joint meetings. Palestinian factions have held in Tunis and Algeria to reunite Palestinian action within the PLO framework. A responsible Palestinian source told the QNA correspondent in Tunis today that the PLO Executive Committee, which met last night under Yasir 'Arafat and was attended by PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, carried out a comprehensive review of all the ideas put forth by the Palestinian factions on eliminating political and organizational differences and on holding a PNC session. The source added that the conferees decided to support the efforts under way for reuniting Palestinian action and completing the dialogue in light of the encouraging results that have been achieved.

West Bank, Gaza Schools Receive Kuwaiti Aid *JN151025 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 12 Mar 87 p 3*

[Text] Universities and educational institutions in the occupied Arab territories have received \$5 million as a contribution from Kuwait to these institutions. Educational sources said the money was given to the universities and institutions of Bir'r Zayd, Al-Najah, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Gaza, and Hebron a few days ago.

The aid is intended to enable these educational centers in the occupied territory to continue their educational programs to educate the people under occupation. This annual aid is in implementation of the instructions of Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who is concerned about the educational centers in the occupied territory and the educational and scientific future of the Palestinian people.

Palestinian sources have expressed gratitude to the Kuwaiti Government and people for this aid.

Kuwait Reportedly To Sponsor YAR-PDRY Summit *JN151951 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTihad AL-USBU'I in Arabic 12 Mar 87 pp 1, 8*

[Text] Aden — Well-informed sources told *Al-Ittihad* yesterday that a summit meeting will be held between YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium chairman, under the auspices of Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. The sources added that the summit will convene in Sanaa or Kuwait to discuss the refugees who left for the northern part of Yemen with former President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

The date of this summit will be set in the light of the results of efforts by Sa'ud al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign

affairs, who recently visited Sanaa and Aden with message from Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah to the two Yemeni leaders on restoring normal relations between the two parts of Yemen.

The sources affirmed to *Al-Ittihad* that a tripartite agreement has been reached among both parts of Yemen and Kuwait for the return of all PDRY citizens who are in Sanaa, with the exception of 48 people, including 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

The sources told *Al-Ittihad* that the tripartite agreement contains guarantees for the return of all refugees from Sanaa to Aden, organizes their state of affairs, and provides them with all they need to exercise their rights within the framework of the general amnesty, which has been extended for the third time and which expires in June this year. The sources ruled out the possibility that the agreement would cover dialogue, political reconciliation, or any direct or indirect contact with former

President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and 47 of his supporters who were not covered by the general amnesty.

The sources also excluded the possibility that the tripartite agreement had set as a condition the suspension of the current trials in Aden of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's supporters, the issuance of a new general amnesty carrying no exceptions, or the suspension of arrangements for convening the YSP's General Congress in mid-June.

The agreement, however, may have covered the issue of holding meetings with a large number of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's supporters who were covered by the general amnesty and who wish to return to Aden to continue the process of construction and the elimination of the effects of the bloody 13 January events.

PDRY

Al-Bid Receives USSR Deputy Fishing Minister

EA162124 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, YSP Central Committee secretary general, received at his office in the Central Committee Secretariat building this morning Comrade Nikolay Lysenko, deputy minister of the Soviet Ministry of the Fish Industry and chairman of the Soviet side in the meetings of the joint Yemeni-Soviet Committee for Marine Fisheries, who is currently on a visit to our country. A review was made during the meeting of relations between our country and the friendly USSR and ways of strengthening and developing them in fisheries, as well as a review of the outcome of the 13th round of meetings of the joint Yemeni-Soviet Committee for Marine Fisheries of the two friendly countries, held in Aden recently.

The brother secretary general expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the meetings and hailed the honest internationalist support provided by the friendly USSR with the aim of strengthening the role of our country's fisheries sector and proper exploitation and development of the fish resources and the fishing fleet, as well as the building of numerous economically viable fisheries projects to serve the aims of economic and social development, to satisfy the needs of the local market for fish of all types, and to promote fish exports — all of which will benefit our national economy and its future development.

For his part, Comrade Lysenko expressed the USSR's interest in providing all forms of material and moral support and expertise aimed at strengthening the continuous development of the fisheries sector in Democratic Yemen and to support its material and technical aspects up to the year 2,000.

The meeting was attended by Brother Salim Muhammad Jubran, Central Committee member and fisheries minister, and Comrade Albert Rachkov, CPSU Central Committee candidate member and Soviet ambassador in Aden.

QATAR

Amir Receives British Minister of State, Group

JN161103 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Doha, 16 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the Qatari Amir, received this morning Lord Trefgarne, British minister of state for defense support, and the accompanying delegation who are on a visit to Doha. During the meeting, they discussed ways to reinforce cooperation and to strengthen bilateral relations.

The meeting was attended by Muhammad 'Abdallah al-'Atiyyah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and Julian Walker, UK ambassador to Qatar.

The British minister arrived in Doha from Abu Dhabi yesterday.

Heir Apparent Meets Trefgarne

JN161105 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0911 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Doha, 16 Mar (WAKH) — This morning His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, received Lord Trefgarne, British minister of state for defense support, who is currently visiting Doha. The meeting was attended by Muhammad 'Abdallah al-'Atiyyah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces; 'Abdallah ibn Khalifah al-'Atiyyah, the head of the heir apparent's office; and Julian Walker, the British ambassador to Qatar.

During the meeting, they reviewed aspects of cooperation between Qatar and the UK.

Delegation Departs

JN162013 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1450 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Doha, 16 Mar (WAKH) — Lord D.G. Trefgarne, British minister of state for defense support, and his delegation left here for Manama today at the end of a 1-day visit to Qatar within a tour of the countries of the region.

The British minister met with Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and with the heir apparent and discussed with them ways to promote bilateral cooperation.

Diplomatic Representation Exchanged With Uruguay

JN161244 Doha QNA in Arabic 1150 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Doha, 16 Mar (QNA) — Qatar and Uruguay have decided to exchange diplomatic representation at the ambassadorial level. A statement issued by the Qatari Foreign Ministry today says this decision emerged from the two countries' desire to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation.

SAUDI ARABIA

Source Denies Remarks Attributed to Al-Faysal

LD162205 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2126 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Mar (SPA) — There is absolutely no truth in what the French weekly *Le Nouvel Observateur* has published in its issue No 1165 on 12 March 1987, attributing it to His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister.

This was stated to SPA by a responsible source. The source added it is regrettable that the magazine claims that His Highness said the following after his return from Tehran in June 1985: "We do not know what they really want...if the departure of Saddam Husayn is their demand, we will make him depart; but if that is a first step to be followed by further concessions, then this is impossible."

The source concluded his statement by saying that while we categorically deny the truth of this report, we reaffirm that the Kingdom's policy does not condone interference in the internal affairs of any fraternal or friendly country.

Khashuqi Interviewed on U.S.-Iran Arms Deal*PA161308 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1205 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] Madrid, 16 Mar (EFE) — The arms sale to Iran, the goal of which was to end the Gulf war and make certain that moderate factions would succeed [Ayatollah] Khomeini, was spoiled by the CIA, Adnan Khashuqi, the plan's mastermind, stated.

In an interview from Monte Carlo, published by the newspaper *El Pais*, Khashuqi admitted that the plan was his idea, which he came up with after meeting Iranian citizen Manucher Qorbanifar in 1985. Khashuqi said the plan was spoiled when the CIA began participating in it. Following a casual meeting with Qorbanifar at a Persian rug store in Hamburg, Khashuqi, a Saudi millionaire, sent a report to then U.S. National Security Adviser Robert MacFarlane.

Once the plan was underway, Khashuqi assumed a low profile. He reappeared later on, when Qorbanifar asked him to finance the arms sale operation via Israel.

"I assumed all the initial risk to get the ball rolling. Everything was working beautifully until the CIA got involved in it with its new idea of exchanging weapons for hostages, forgetting its initial objective," he added.

The initial plan involved the sale of weapons to Iran; the weapons were to carry a 20 percent markup in price. The money was then to be given to the Iranian moderate faction. "However, suddenly, the CIA began to sell its own weapons and at a much cheaper price," Khashuqi said, "all of this without U.S. security [seguridad norteamericana] knowing what its secret service was doing."

"The Iranians discovered the deceit and accused us of swindling them. Israel then stopped forwarding the weapons, and I lost \$10 million," Khashuqi stressed.

The Saudi millionaire said his objective was to begin an operation to achieve peace in the Middle East, including a solution to the Palestinian problem, without which there can be — in his opinion — no possibility for peace in the region.

Khashuqi has never wanted to refer to the role played by Saudi Arabia in the matter. However, it is well-known that the Riyadh regime opposes any possible expansion of Khomeini's Islamic revolution.

French Interior Minister Departs at End of Visit*LD170546 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1834 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 16 Mar (SPA) — His excellency the French interior minister, Mr Charles Pasqua, and the delegation accompanying him left Al-Jubayl this evening for his country following a 4-day official visit to the Kingdom at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the interior minister. [passage omitted]

UAE**U.S. View of Pakistan N-Effort 'Hypocritical'***JN160934 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 12 Mar 87 p 1*

[Editorial: "American Hypocrisy"]

[Text] The entire Muslim world can rightly pour scorn on an American campaign that has grown louder over the past few weeks against what news media in the United States variously termed the Pakistani nuclear effort and the Islamic nuclear bomb. For all the assurances by Pakistan that it is engaged only in peaceful uses of atomic power, that it does not possess or plan to possess such weapons, the propaganda campaign goes on. In the meantime, pressure mounts on Pakistan to cut back on its nuclear power program for peaceful purposes. American officials have hinted at halting U.S. assistance to Pakistan unless it furnishes evidence it has no plans to produce a nuclear weapon on the grounds that the U.S. foreign aid law prohibits such aid to any country engaged in the production of nuclear arms.

It is indeed ironic that the Americans should advance such an argument. It shows how hypocritical Washington's policies are; the United States has never contemplated using this law against Israel. Indeed, Israel is the largest recipient of American foreign aid. The whole world knows that Israel is actively engaged in the production of nuclear bombs and unashamedly refuses to sign international agreement on the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

All Muslims have a right to view the American campaign against the so-called Islamic nuclear bomb as fresh evidence of animosity and bias against whatever has to do with Islam and as a transparent attempt to hamper the technological advancement of Muslims. It is part of the scenario of the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel envisaging a Muslim world kept in a state of backwardness to facilitate its containment and domination.

AL-AHALI on U.S. Offer on Debts for Land Lease
JN160841 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 11 Mar 87
 pp 1, 10

[From Muhammad Hamadinyu in Alexandria]

[Text] Last week, the Egyptian authorities permitted units of the U.S. 6th Fleet to use the piers of the Navy base in Alexandria as permanent anchorages. U.S. experts from these units were previously allowed to use the base's equipment to deepen the waters in front of these piers. The base's electrical transformer, which had a frequency of 50 cycles, was replaced by a new caterpillar type with a frequency of 60 cycles that can fit the electrical equipment used in the bases of the U.S. Fleet. This replacement cost the naval base half a million pounds.

Five U.S. warships, including the two destroyers *D-38* and *1075*, entered the Egyptian naval base piers on 24 February. The security apparatus imposed a complete news blackout on the affair.

Cairo received an offer from the U.S. Administration on 9 March stating that the United States reiterates its sympathy with the Egyptian Government in the economic crisis it is facing and that the U.S. Government voices its desire to alleviate the Egyptian Government's burdens by exempting it from repaying the installments of the military debts payable during the coming 5 years and up to 1 July 1992 by considering them as repaid if the Egyptian Government agrees to lease 200,000 square meters of land in the southeastern Red Sea Governorate to the Americans. The area extends 4,000 meters along the Egyptian Red Sea coast.

The offer stated that the U.S. Navy will prepare the area, build prefabricated buildings to house U.S. Marines, build two piers and floating platforms to receive U.S. Navy vessels, and perform periodic maintenance and repair work on them. The offer also stipulates that the lease contract be renewable every 5 years, provided that the Egyptian and U.S. Governments agree to this renewal. The United States' dropping of the installments of the military debts payable up to the year 1992 would be the lease cost for the first 5 years. The offer also states that a committee comprising Egyptian and U.S. military experts be set up to assess the lease cost of this area of land to be used by the U.S. Navy. The offer commits the U.S. Navy to hand over the area to the Egyptians at the end of the 5-year period should the Egyptian Government not agree to a renewal of the contract.

Cairo Fire Not Believed Political, Criminal
NC161706 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1629 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — Firemen have successfully extinguished a blaze that broke out early this morning in some stalls used to sell rubber and plastic hoses on Port Said Street in the Al-Muski District of Cairo. [passage omitted]

According to preliminary estimates, 33 stalls and their contents, as well as 15 vehicles, were burned. The fire also damaged three other vehicles and broke some glass in neighboring buildings.

An initial examination indicates that the fire was not caused by criminal action, nor was there any political motive or extremist movement behind it. It is possible the blaze broke out when some private guards started a fire to make tea and keep warm. A spark may have reached the stored hoses and goods and ignited them. [passage omitted]

Al-Sharif Denies Bomb Blast at Cairo Fair
NC161402 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has denied a report published by the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Anba'* today about a bomb explosion at the back gate of the Cairo International Fair 2 days ago. He asserted that this report is completely false and groundless, expressing surprise that a Kuwaiti paper would publish such a report without verifying the truth.

Operation of Foreign Radio Stations Denied
NC161327 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Mar (MENA) — Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has denied there are radio stations in Egypt broadcasting programs in favor of certain political refugees or opponents of certain regimes who reside in Egypt.

In a statement to the Saudi newspaper *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat*, published today, Al-Sharif asserted that the only radio station in Egypt is Egyptian radio. He said Egypt does not allow such behavior.

Certain foreign papers have claimed there is a radio station in Egypt broadcasting programs in favor of opponents of the Iranian regime, financed by the son of the late shah of Iran.

Al-Sharif noted that electoral programs of the parties participating in the People's Assembly elections will be aired beginning on 21 March and last until 2 April. He said that Cairo radio and television will allocate 3 days a week during this period to the electoral programs of these parties. He noted that each party has complete freedom to choose its speaker and said that a new man-in-the-street type program reflecting the activities of the parties and independent candidates will be featured.

Leaders, Papers React to Muslim-Christian Strife

Muslim Guide Hits Incidents
PM170903 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 10 Mar 87 p 1

[Muhammad 'Abd al-Quddus report: "Unity of Two Elements of Nation Will Thwart Conspiracies"]

[Text] The Muslim Brotherhood has denounced the sectarian incidents that took place in Suhaj and Bani Suwayf last week. Muhammad Hamid Abu al-Nasr, general guide of the Muslim Brotherhood, said the Muslim Brotherhood denounces and even condemns such actions on the grounds that they are contrary to its religion and creed. Almighty God said in his book: "God

forbids you not, with regard to those who fight you not for your faith nor drive you out of your homes, from dealing kindly and justly with them: For God loveth the just" [Koranic verse].

The general guide said it is charitable to treat our brothers the Christian Copts well, to share their joys and sorrows, and to let the spirit of human tolerance prevail in our good relations, which have grown and flourished since ancient times. It is only just that we do them no injustice nor squander their rights. We should preserve and protect their places of worship.

Hamid Abu al-Nasr said the burning of churches and mosques was not an accident. Rather it is the work of colonialism, which is seeking to divide the nation and combat the spirit of love and appreciation between two elements of the nation that God has brought together and whose unity God has consolidated since ancient times. Thus, they have become the solid rock on which colonialism has shattered when it tried to undo this link and tear apart this noble unity.

The Muslim Brotherhood general guide warned that colonialism is trying to repeat in Egypt what it has done in Lebanon, where ugly sectarianism destroyed the unity of the beloved people.

The Muslim Brotherhood general guide said martyr Imam Hasan al-Banna [founder of the Muslim Brotherhood] always sought to preserve the unity of the nation and even strengthen and nourish it. In the late forties he set up a political committee under the Muslim Brotherhood's Guidance Bureau in which he included some Copts, such as Luis Fanus, member of parliament for Abnub District in Asyut, and Wahib Daws. The committee began carrying out its task, but incidents involving the Muslim Brotherhood then prevented the committee from achieving its objectives.

Al-Azhar Rector: Strife 'Over'

JN170840 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 14 Mar 87 p 3

[Report on an interview with the rector of Al-Azhar University Jad al-Haq 'Ali Jad al-Haq by 'Izzat al-Su'dani in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpt] I could not wait until the morning to meet him, so I talked to him at night about the acts of violence in Bani Suwayf and Sawhaj between Muslims and Christians as reported by the world newspapers and radios, which carry the bad news before the good.

Jad al-Haq said, while trying to reassure me over the telephone: It is all over my brother. I said: How?

He said: The Awqaf minister and Al-Azhar scholars went to Sawhaj and Bani Suwayf and put an end to all the unjustified sectarian incidents. They returned after it was agreed to rebuild the mosque that was burned down and to repair the church that caught fire.

I said: But who started that sectarian sedition?

He said: Nobody.

I said: How?

He said: Neither the Muslims nor the Copts started it. The doer is an evil hand working in darkness and trying to kindle the fire of sedition, but in vain. [passage omitted]

AL-AHRAM Details 'Plots'

JN162113 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 14 Mar 87 p 7

["Just an Opinion" column by Salah Muntasar: "Lessons and Remarks"]

[Text] The recent attempts to kindle the fire of sectarian sedition between Egypt's Muslims and Copts were not — and I think will not be — the last. Those making these attempts know that the spirit of harmony and amity between the Copts and Muslims is the strongest base upon which Egyptian society is founded. There are some Copts who know by heart some Koranic verses and there are some Muslims who share in Coptic religious celebrations.

However, it is noted that the attempts to sabotage the relationship between Muslims and Copts are always made under similar circumstances and in an almost a similar manner. In this regard we state the following:

1. The attempts to kindle the fire of this sedition are always made when Egypt is preoccupied with a major event that distracts attention from any plots that may be carried out in darkness;

2. The method applied depends on stirring Muslims' feelings against Copts by burning a mosque and stirring Copts' feelings against Muslims by burning a church. Thus, the two sides are provoked and their feelings are stirred by harming what is most sacred to them;

3. Those concocting these plots base their calculations on the assumption that the official departments will be reluctant to announce these incidents and will try to shroud them in secrecy. Such a method often leads to fanning the fire rather than extinguishing it and to expanding the danger zone rather than containing it, something which is desired by the conspiring hands and minds;

4. Part of those plotters' calculations are based on the assumption such incidents will be material for party papers that will try to use them and publish them in a manner often far from the truth and in a way differing from one newspaper to the next according to the amount of spice each paper adds to the report. Truth in this regard is the most effective weapon to foil and destroy these plots as quickly as possible.

While talking about democracy and freedom we should believe this democracy is the peoples' effective weapon to confront the danger we are facing. Democracy and sound news media were responsible for extinguishing the fire of the central security sedition and incidents. Extinguishing any sectarian fire is not the task of security organs alone, but also the responsibility of all Egyptians. Such a task cannot be fulfilled without telling the truth without sensitivities or complexes.

AL-AKHBAR Denounces Silence*JN170839 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 15 Mar 87 p 1*

[Sa'id Sunbul article: "Silence...is of No Avail"]

[Text] Those who spoke were few, and those who remained silent or preferred to remain silent constituted the overwhelming majority. Those who spoke chose their words and expressions with the utmost care. They rehashed what had already been said and added nothing new.

They said: These are regrettable incidents that no one can condone. These incidents conflict with the nature of the Egyptian people who are reputed for their tolerance and amity. He also said these incidents imperil national unity and uttered similar polished phrases.

With the exception of some writers, headed by journalist Ahmad Baha' al-Din, everybody considered the issue as closed and no one pursued it further, whether by those who spoke or those who did not speak. They turned their backs to the recent sectarian incidents. They left the security organs to confront this phenomenon alone and to tackle it as if these incidents were purely a security issue and not a social and national issue in the first place.

We might have reached unanimous agreement that the recent sectarian incidents are purely a security issue had a specific incident taken place in a particular area and had not recurred. However, this did not happen because more than one incident took place in more than one area and at different times.

We also might have reached unanimous agreement that the recent sectarian incidents are purely a security issue had the existence of foreign elements that seek to fan the fire of sedition between Muslims and Christians been irrefutably proved, or had the security organs laid their hands on huge sums of money that some have allocated for the implementation of a conspiracy to undermine Egyptian national unity. But this did not happen or has not been confirmed.

Therefore, the issue is not purely a security issue as some depict it or try to depict it, to let others assume the responsibility. First of all, it is a social issue whose responsibility rests with the politicians, men of religion, and the intelligentsia.

Most probably, the silence observed by the various political and religious parties in Egypt is what has led to the occurrence of more than one incident in more than one governorate. Unfortunately, all these incidents were marked by violence.

These incidents started when rumors were disseminated that some kind of liquid that young Copts had sprayed on the clothes of veiled women resulted in the appearance of crosses on these clothes.

Not one of the wise men, the politicians, or the men of religion tried to refute what is being rumored. They imagined that the policy of silence is capable of appeasing spirits or that the security organs can settle this problem. However, under the canopy of a tense social atmosphere and fertile ground where extremism can easily flourish, these rumors found people who would believe

them, magnify them, and confirm them. Unfortunately, there were even some persons who started calling for retribution and revenge.

More than one incident took place. Every one of these incidents, in itself, should have been sufficient to rouse those who remained silent and prompt them into breaking this silence. But this did not happen.

The men of religion remained silent and did not take any step reflecting the Egyptian people's religious tolerance.

The politicians, particularly the politicians of the majority party, became more preoccupied with the elections, the seats, and the number of votes than with the sectarian incidents that pose a threat to Egypt's national unity.

Muslims and Christians agreed to refer the issue to the security organs as if it were a security issue and not a social issue.

No one can deny that the security organs, which have specific capabilities, have so far tackled these incidents within the capabilities at their disposal, but until when?

The primary responsibility for tackling these incidents rests with the politicians, the men of religion, and the intellectuals. It does not stand to reason that the fire is ignited here and there while all these remain silent and are embarrassed to speak about these incidents.

It has been proven that silence is of no avail and that it sometimes exacerbates the situation.

AL-AKHBAR on Cross Phenomenon*JN170854 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 13 Mar 87 pp 1, 5*

[By Majdi 'Abd al-Ghani]

[Text] Alexandria — The Interior Ministry has disclosed the truth about the crosses that appear on the clothes and head covers of veiled women. It has been established that there is no special spray that prints crosses on clothes. It has also been established that when sprayed with dyes some textiles such as polyester and synthetic silk absorb these dyes in such a way that the fibers of these materials show an intersection of horizontal and vertical lines forming the sign of the cross. *Al-Akhbar* has carried out a practical experiment by spraying dye on a piece of cloth, and the relationship became very clear. *Al-Akhbar* has learned that the forensic laboratory has also submitted a report on this phenomenon. A committee formed by Major General Mahmud Hilmi, director of the Criminal Evidence Department, and including Dr Ahmad al-Dawaji, professor of the Printing Department at the College of Applied Arts, referred in its report to this peculiarity in certain imported and locally manufactured textiles such as polyester, synthetic silk, and acrylic.

The peculiarity is that the textile fibers intersect forming the sign of the cross. And, when the textile is sprayed with paint, the fibers absorb the paint in such a way that intersecting horizontal and

vertical lines appear. The horizontal line is heavier than the vertical line. It all depends on the degree of density of the paint or liquid ink.

Al-Akhbar has witnessed a practical experiment by public security organs to obtain this information. A sensitive experiment was carried out at the Silk Textiles Company in Alexandria. The experiment, which was recorded by *Al-Akhbar's* camera, was conducted by Faruq 'Ajlani, the company's textile expert; Eng Fathi al-Sa'id, director of printing; and Eng Muhammad al-Shadhili, technical director of the company's industries. Various types of polyester and synthetic silk materials that are usually used in the head covers and clothes of veiled women were used in this experiment. A diluted solution of the paint was sprayed on these samples and the crosses appeared clearly in small shapes.

Faruq 'Ajlani affirmed that the fiber lines of this material intersect at 90 degree angles, forming the plus sign that is the sign of the cross. The head covers of veiled women are chiefly made of this material. And, since this material does not quickly drain liquids, the spray spreads on it forming intersections of horizontal and vertical lines.

It has been established that youths have exploited this peculiarity — hence the confusion. Their arrest in recent incidents confirms the point.

Senegalese Envoy Brings Message for Mubarak *NC150713 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 15 Mar 87*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Mar (MENA) — Ambassador Moustapha Cissi, personal envoy of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, arrived early this morning, bringing a written and personal message for President Husni Mubarak. The envoy was received by the Senegalese ambassador in Cairo.

Discusses Ties With Ghali *NC151447 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1405 GMT 15 Mar 87*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Mar (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met today with Moustapha Cissi, personal envoy and political adviser to Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

The Senegalese official arrived in Cairo at dawn today with a message for President Mubarak from the Senegalese president.

The two officials discussed bilateral relations during their meeting, as well as the outcome of the African minisummit held in Cairo recently.

Dr Ghali praised the current ties between Egypt and Senegal in various fields, as well as the cooperation that exists between Cairo and Dakar.

Meets With Mubarak

NC160858 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received this morning Moustapha Cissi, personal envoy of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, who is currently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Chams Eddine Ndoeye, Senegal's ambassador in Cairo.

Djibouti Signs Joint Military Protocol 16 March *NC161614 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] A protocol for military cooperation with regard to training and an exchange of visits was signed between Egypt and Djibouti at the Defense Ministry today. Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, chief of staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces, signed the protocol on behalf of Egypt, while the Djibouti chief of staff signed for his country.

The Djibouti official noted that the protocol covers several areas of interest, with particular emphasis placed on an exchange of views about military issues, coordination of military policies, the training of Djibouti cadres in Egypt, and strengthening Djibouti's military potential. Lt Gen al-'Urabi said this cooperation protocol emphasizes the political relations that exist with Djibouti as an African Arab country. He stated: We believe Djibouti's intrinsic power lies in its ability to bring Arab and African countries together.

Jordanian Health Minister Arrives for Visit *NC162230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — Jordanian Health Minister Dr Zayd Muhammad Hamzah arrived in Cairo this evening from Khartoum. His visit to Egypt is scheduled to last for several days. [passage omitted]

Departs 17 March *NC170650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 17 Mar 87*

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — Jordanian Health Minister Dr Zayd Muhammad Hamzah left Cairo for Amman this morning. After attending the meetings of the 12th session of the Arab Health Minister Council, which was held in Khartoum last week, the Jordanian minister stopped over in Cairo last night on his way back from Khartoum.

UAE Oil Minister Arrives for 'Private' Visit *NC161311 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, arrived in Cairo this afternoon for a private visit of several days. He was received at the airport by staff members of the UAE Interests Section in Cairo.

Communique No 2,605 Details 15-16 March Fighting*JN161729 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Communique No 2,605 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. By carrying out an epic defense of the beloved homeland against the aggressors, the glorious men of Iraq with their heroic steadfastness and their unswerving faith are mapping a brilliant future for great Iraq and are scoring the inevitable victory.

The following is a roundup of activities of last night and today:

1. Our valiant forces in the VII Army Corps sector of operation intensively pounded enemy units opposite them with all types of weapons, inflicting further losses among the ranks of the rogues and destroying their weapons and military hardware. They also destroyed one gun, four positions, and five vehicles, one of which carried ammunition, set six ammunition dumps on fire, and killed three enemy soldiers.
2. Our triumphant forces in the III Army Corps sector of operation continued their daring combat activities against the Khomeyniite aggressors. Using artillery, tanks, and other weapons, our forces destroyed several positions of various types, paralyzed enemy engineering work, and inflicted personnel and materiel losses on the enemy. Elsewhere in this sector one vehicle was destroyed and three ammunition dumps set on fire.
3. Six infantry positions and three observation posts were destroyed and one enemy soldier was killed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.
4. One boat was destroyed and an ammunition dump was detonated in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.
5. The rancorous Khomeyniite clique shelled residential areas in the heroic city of Basra with long-range artillery, damaging several houses and civilian properties.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 March 1987

Commander on 'Ability To Foil' Iranian Plans*JN171052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Mar 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military commander has stressed the Iraqi forces' ability to foil and destroy the Iranian forces' plans, and to prevent them from approaching or reaching any strategic target.

In a statement to the newspaper *Al-Qadisiyah*, organ of the Iraqi Defense Ministry, today, Staff Brigadier General 'Abd al-Wahid Shinan Al Rabat, commander of the Al-Miqdad forces, said our forces are alert and ready to bury any Iranian attempt against our impregnable defensive positions and fortifications.

He added that the Iraqi units are dealing effective blows to the Iranian forces, monitoring their movements, and controlling the no-man's-land area so as to prevent them from carrying out any action. He stressed that the Al-Miqdad forces, which fought Iran for 5 days at the beginning of the Great Harvest operations, are now more determined to fight all Iran.

Merchant Shipping Talks Begin With USSR*JN161446 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Mar (INA) — The meetings of the ninth session of the Iraqi-Soviet committee for maritime navigation and merchant shipping began here today. The meetings will last a week.

The committee will discuss the two countries' future cooperation in merchant shipping and maritime navigation. The committee also will review what has been implemented after the convening of the eighth session which was held in Moscow in 1985.

The Iraqi side to the talks was led by Under Secretary 'Abd al-sattar Faraman and the Soviet side was led by G.D. Gerasimchuk, member of the Soviet Ministry of Maritime Fleet.

Iran Ignores 'Taboos' in International Relations*JN130920 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Mar 87 p 20*

[The "Last Stop" column by Mu'nis al-Razzaz; "The Ends and Means and Iran"]

[Text] It is not enough for the Iranian regime to bleed Iraq and preoccupy it with a war calculated to neutralize its pan-Arab role; Teheran has gone so far as to furnish the United States with data about Soviet arms. According to the U.S. NBC television network, the Iranians offered to swap Soviet-made T-72 tanks for American anti-tank TOW missiles.

The Iranian regime does not seem to realize there are such things as taboos in international relations. It is bleeding an Arab state which used to be an important factor in the equation of confrontation with the Zionist enemy. Without compunction, Tehran orders pro-Iranian terror groups in Lebanon to seize foreigners so as to blackmail the West. Internally, Tehran suppresses all dissent in favor of only one voice. Progressive and democratic forces are liquidated.

Without compunction, Tehran concludes clandestine deals through the Zionist entity, advancing the argument that the end justifies the means. It is now offering to supply the United States with T-72's in exchange for TOW missiles.

Some people used to think that no matter how aberrant a certain regime became, it would still stop short of crossing the threshold of taboos; in other words, those specific principles which run counter to its ideology. For the Iranian rulers the end justifies the means, no matter how low and revolting those means may be.

Liquidation of Jerusalem Power Company Condemned*JN161119 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 16 Mar 87 p 1*

[Editorial: "The Last Link in the Chain of Judaization"]

[Text] The decision announced by the Israeli energy minister regarding the liquidation of the Jerusalem Arab Electricity Company at the end of this year is the last link in the chain of measures to Judaize Arab Jerusalem and its surroundings and to swallow it completely by the Zionist entity.

This step comes a few days after the Israeli authorities' announcement on the circle of annexation of the Jerusalem area, which includes Ramallah, Al-Birah, Bethlehem, Bayt Sahur, and dozens of Arab villages. This comes as a new fait accompli in which the holy city and its area are placed outside the framework of looking for peace and the settlement of the issue of the Israeli occupation of the occupied territories.

It was no secret that the Zionist program of annexation of the occupied territories proceeded in accordance with an accurate timetable based on exploiting time, successive settlement steps, and gradual annexation. This made any new Judaizational measure separate from the previous ones from a practical viewpoint.

The Zionist program of annexation is based on the strategy of maintaining a state of no war, no peace in the region, and obstructing peace efforts regardless of their orientations. This explains the Israeli course opposing the achievement of a just, comprehensive peace, and Tel Aviv's constant rejection of Resolution 242 whose articles conflict with the practice of seizing land by force and the principle of annexation and expansion in the occupied Arab territories.

Israel now rejects the idea of an international conference and tries to bring this idea into a whirlpool of interpretations, preconditions, and procedural issues even before announcing the acceptance of the idea per se, or the announcement of the acceptance of the formula of Resolutions 242 and 338. This is because Israel rejects the principle of withdrawal, and avoids any legal international reference for a peace initiative based on this principle.

It is not amazing that Israel would resort to liquidating the Jerusalem Arab Electricity Company. This follows its policy of expanding the circle of annexation of the Jerusalem area, intensifying settlement there and considering it a part of what it calls the land of Israel. This trend will continue as long as Israel is able to thwart peace efforts, entrench the occupation and make it permanent, and impose a policy of status quo.

This is not amazing in light of the absence of a collective Arab-international will capable of halting the Zionist expansion and imposing the will of peace and truth. Until this is achieved, erosion of the occupied Arab territories will continue under the pressure of time and the greedy machine of expansion without any deterrence.

Syrian Industry Minister Concludes Visit, Leaves*JN161643 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] Amman — Syrian Industry Minister Eng 'Ali al-Tarabulsi left Amman today following a 3-day visit to Jordan during which he met with Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Dr Raja'i al-Mu'ashshir, minister of supply, industry, and trade. He discussed ways to boost and promote bilateral cooperation in economic, industrial, and trade areas. Eng al-Tarabulsi also participated in the meetings of the General Assembly of the Syrian-Jordanian Company for Industry.

Shams al-Din Optimistic About Saving Normandin

NC161421 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The deadline set by the Revolutionary Justice Organization to execute French hostage Jean-Louis Normandin, after a trial, will expire this evening. [passage omitted]

AFP has quoted His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din [deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council in Lebanon] as saying he is negotiating to save Normandin's life. He said: I am not certain of the results of these negotiations; however, I hope to save him. From what I have been told, I can deduce that Normandin might be saved.

Further Comments

NC161809 Paris AFP in English 1802 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Beirut, March 16 (AFP) — A top Lebanese Shi'ite dignitary, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, on Monday joined appeals for the life of French kidnap victim Jean-Louis Normandin and expressed the view that the hostage will "probably be saved."

In an interview with the pro-Syrian daily *Al-Sharq* to be published Tuesday, Shaykh Shams al-Din, vice president of the Upper Shi'ite Council, said he had led "arduous negotiations" in an effort to save Mr. Normandin, threatened with death by his captors.

"No-one has promised me anything, but I can conclude from what has been said to me, as well as from contacts established by other parties, that the French hostage will probably be saved," the shaykh said.

A shadowy Moslem extremist group known as the Organisation of Revolutionary Justice (ORJ) threatened to pass a "death sentence" on Mr. Normandin by Monday night, as France had failed to shift its position on dealings with terrorists and on French military ties with Iraq. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the Palestinian National Salvation Front (PNSF) said two Palestinians from the Shatila refugee camp in southern Beirut were killed Monday by snipers from the Shi'ite Amal Movement, which has been blockading the camp since November 26.

The PNSF, a coalition hostile to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, also says Amal men killed one woman and injured two others as they were leaving the besieged camp on Burj al-Barajinah Monday morning to buy supplies.

According to the front, 19 women have been killed and 59 people injured in the same way, since Amal partially lifted its siege of Burj al-Barajinah on February 18.

Hizballah's Fadlallah on Syrian Deployment

PM161526 Paris LIBERATION in French 13 Mar 87 pp 17,18

[Reprint of interview with Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, spiritual leader of Lebanon's Hizballah, by Faysal Jallul for Arabic publication *Al-Yawm Al-Sabi'*, translated from the Arabic by Selim Nassib — date and place not given.]

[Excerpt] [Jallul] When the Syrian troops entered West Beirut, it was thought they were going to move into the southern suburb. Do you believe that they abandoned that plan after what happened at the Fathallah Barracks (where 23 Hizballah members were killed by the Syrians — *Liberation* editor's note), or have they simply postponed their action?

[Fadlallah] The southern suburb was not included in the (Syrian) "security plan" according to their avowed objective which was to end the fighting between the militias. Indeed, aside from the "camp war," there has never been any fighting in the suburb. However, entry into the suburb is taken into consideration in political calculations. But there is more than one problem that prevents this entry — particularly the attitude toward the camps and hence the regional dimension of the Palestinian question.

[Jallul] Do you believe the measures taken can contribute to a political solution to the Lebanese crisis?

[Fadlallah] It is too soon to talk of a political solution. In the present circumstances there is simply a "cooling" of the crisis.

[Jallul] Do you approve of the "security plan"?

[Fadlallah] Strictly from the viewpoint of the situation in West Beirut, which had greatly deteriorated and was endangering the lives of most civilians, I regard the initiative as positive. But I cannot approve of its political consequences or of certain methods, like the massacre perpetrated in the Fathallah District, not the barracks. The crime was perpetrated in an apartment outside the barracks not in the headquarters that had been handed over to the Syrian forces without any problem.

[Jallul] Resistance was apparently encountered.

[Fadlallah] I can assure you that not one shot was fired at the Syrians. It was a cold-blooded massacre.

[Jallul] If the Syrians tried to invade the southern suburb by force, what do you think would happen?

[Fadlallah] In view of the problems that I have just mentioned, there might be numerous difficulties. I imagine that the "Islamic side" would not feel it was in the general interest to take up arms. (Footnote) (The Arabic expression is ambiguous, perhaps deliberately so. "Taking up arms" can mean to "fight" and to "lay down one's arms.")

[Jallul] The Iranians are said to have intervened to prevent the Syrians from entering the suburb. Do you think they played a role?

[Fadlallah] I do not believe the Iranian intervention was likely to

influence the operation at the beginning. But, after what happened, it is highly likely that talks took place.

[Jallul] Muhammad Talas, the murderer of Mr Gouttierre, the French military attache in Beirut, is apparently now being held by the Lebanese authorities. He is said to be a member of Hizballah.

[Fadlallah] I learned that from the press and I questioned some of my Hizballah brothers on that person's relationship with them. They were surprised and denied the report.

[Jallul] In theory, would Hizballah stand to gain anything from the murder of the French military attache?

[Fadlallah] The Hizballah brothers say they have nothing to do with any murders or attacks. They think that all the kidnappings, bombings, and murders are perpetrated by secret services that have nothing to do with them.

[Jallul] It appears that the recent developments in Franco-Iranian relations — particularly the solution to the problem of the French debt to Iran — is likely to contribute to the release of the French hostages held in Lebanon. Do you think this is possible?

[Fadlallah] I believe it is natural that the hostage question has changed. It has become more a means of conveying a specific political message. This kind of question goes beyond the Lebanese framework and becomes a problem that affects the French elections, just as it has become an American or other question.

[Jallul] I do not believe a country like France could submit its fundamental policy line to this kind of question. But there may be tactical changes and changes on some details.

[Jallul] Do you think a solution to this problem is imminent?

[Fadlallah] I can assure you that the solution to this problem or the means of achieving progress on it cannot be found in Lebanon.

[Jallul] What do you mean? To whom are you referring and to what country outside Lebanon?

[Fadlallah] I mean what I say. [Passage omitted]

Mufti Khalid on Syrian Role, Palestinian Camps
PM161501 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 13 Mar 87
pp 16, 17

[Interview with Lebanese Mufti Shaykh Hasan Khalid by Shirbil Zughayb; place and date not given]

[Excerpts][introductory passage omitted] *Al-Hawadith*: How do you view the present political and security situation now that the Beirut security plan has been put into effect?

Khalid: Anyone who lived in West Beirut during the period preceding the recent incidents and therefore experienced these incidents and whose life was spared by God would undoubtedly

greatly appreciate the situation we are now in and would see that the situation has become good. God has ordained for him abundant goodness after he experienced so much repression and pain. The present situation can in no way be compared with that of the past. Thank God there is a force on the ground that says to each citizen that there is an authority that prevents terrorism and irregular practices. Of course, we would not say the authority has completely fulfilled its mission, but it has put an end to the anxieties that resulted from the prevailing chaos. The authority has achieved a kind of social order and comfort to some extent. A person can walk in the street today in the knowledge that someone is watching over him and other people and that both he and the others are equal. Nobody is imposing hegemony by force of arms because he belongs to a movement or a militia. Such people no longer exist and do not have the ability to act as they did in the past. This is good for all citizens because they are now able to think about their future and how to face the burdens of life.

Al-Hawadith: Your Eminence, there still remains the problem of the contact lines and the southern suburb. Will the security plan stop at the point it has reached so far or will it expand to cover the rest of the two areas?

Khalid: The answer to this question undoubtedly makes it necessary to discuss a very important point; namely the fact that what the Syrian forces have done so far in the western area has been limited to maintaining security and confiscating arms to prevent gunmen from using their arms as a means of oppression, blackmail, and aggression against people. The result has been that daily life has returned to normal.

As for the contact lines and other areas, they are subject to inter-Lebanese reconciliation and, consequently, to the Lebanese-Syrian mutual understanding. If the inter-Lebanese negotiations now being conducted under Syria's sponsorship succeed and if all parties find common ground and outline acceptable formulas, this will undoubtedly result in relief and satisfaction for everyone. This will also create a suitable climate for a new stage during which barriers among the Lebanese people will be removed.

To achieve what you mentioned, a political step has to be taken to ensure the success of the inter-Lebanese negotiations provided that we begin a stage of better Lebanese-Syrian relations to achieve what we are hoping for.

Al-Hawadith: Let us be specific. There are two forces in the southern suburb; namely, Hizballah and the Palestinian camps, and both have regional links. Do you believe the security plan for the southern suburb is the product of local harmony or regional harmony?

Khalid: The situation in the southern suburb is different from the situation on the contact lines and the present situation in Beirut to some extent. There are now several forces in the southern suburb, not just two: There are Hizballah, the Amal Movement, the 6th Brigade, and the Palestinian camps. There might also be other forces that have not yet been identified. The forces I mentioned have their own links, policies, and strategies. They are supported internally or externally, and therefore if the

Syrian forces want to enter this area, the way to such operation has to be paved through contacts beforehand to overcome difficulties with the forces present there and with the regional forces backing these local forces, if the latter have any regional links.

Al-Hawadith: But what about the second part of the question, which concerns the Palestinian camps?

Khalid: If it was up to me I would have never fought a battle with the Palestinians. Also I would not have allowed such a battle to take place. The important thing is for us and the Palestinians to reach certain convictions, among them the conviction that they should have no arms outside the camps and that they, like other forces on the ground, should be subject to the legitimate Lebanese authority because it is the sovereign power. When the Lebanese are banned from carrying arms it is natural for the Palestinians to be disarmed outside the camps and for them not to carry out any military operations via Lebanese territory. Remember that I am not against the Palestinians, but I agree that they should keep their arms inside the camps only for purposes of self-defense if they face what they faced in the past; namely, sudden Israeli air and commando attacks when the Lebanese state has been unable to protect them from such aggression. Only in such cases do the Palestinians have the right to defend themselves. The Palestinians are our brothers in heritage, history, faith, and goals and therefore we should only treat them as brothers and help and support them so that they can live in peace and harmony until the difficult circumstances they are experiencing come to an end and a solution is found to the major problem that made them leave their homes and land to live this difficult life.

As for the settlement of this matter, it is up to the politicians concerned with this situation, provided they view the situation from this standpoint and work in the interest of the cause they believe in and care for. But I regard it as unacceptable for a solution to be achieved through wars and liquidations. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: Do you expect a Lebanese-Syrian summit to be held in Damascus as a result of the negotiations currently being held?

Khalid: All the news we are receiving on this subject indicates that preparations for the summit are under way and that recent incidents, despite their ugliness and the disasters and tragedies they caused, cannot justify abandoning this idea; nor can they prevent this summit from being held. What I know is that negotiations on inter-Lebanese reconciliation have been taking place, especially during the five-party meeting held in Damascus recently. We have been acquainted with the results of this meeting, which in itself is a significant step. The results of the meeting cannot be ignored; indeed, it could be regarded as a step toward the summit preparatory to putting an end to what is happening in the Lebanese arena. A summit is not impossible or unlikely; in fact I believe anything is possible, given good intentions. As long as negotiations are taking place I believe a summit will be held shortly, although I am unable to specify a date.

Al-Hawadith: Some people talk of this summit as though it will be the key to relief. Do you believe that, if such a summit is

held, it will produce the broad outlines of political reform or will it be similar to previous summits?

Khalid: Our understanding is that the summit will be held only after all the difficulties have been overcome, all the issues have been discussed, all the problems have been dealt with, and clear points and a formula have been agreed upon among all the parties. If a summit is held it will, God willing, be a successful one and unlike the previous ones.

Al-Hawadith: Will it portend an end to the Lebanese war?

Khalid: I believe it will, God willing, be a beginning for new relief and a new era.

Al-Hawadith: What can we say to those linking the Lebanese crisis to the Middle East crisis?

Khalid: Lebanon's crisis cannot be completely separated from the Middle East crisis, but this can be done at least partially. The Middle East crisis does not involve Lebanon only but all countries of the region. But we simultaneously see that the countries in the region live in peace internally. We hope that normal life will be restored to us, as in other countries of the region. This does not mean that we will automatically abandon our commitments to the Middle East crisis once we reach solutions to our internal crisis. We are always affected by it positively and negatively. Despite this commitment, we must seek to separate the internal Lebanese crisis, especially its security aspect, from the crisis of the region. On the other hand, we should not delay the inter-Lebanese understanding, the restoration of what has been destroyed, and the revival of the Lebanese economy until after the Middle East crisis is solved. [passage omitted]

Kan'an: End of Camps Siege Hinges on Withdrawal
NC170717 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0545 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] There has been continued sniping throughout the night on the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah lines. Two persons were killed in Shatila camp by sniper fire. Early in the night, Amal and Palestinians exchanged rocket and machine gun fire in the same areas. A Palestinian source said three Palestinians were killed and four others were wounded in the shelling of Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps yesterday by Amal and the 6th Brigade.

Meanwhile, the new high commissioner [chief of Syrian intelligence] Ghazi Kan'an declared that the lifting of the siege on the Palestinian camps in Beirut hinges upon a Palestinian withdrawal from their strongholds east of Sidon. Palestinian sources in Sidon said that after their withdrawal from Maghdushah the Palestinians cannot afford to relinquish any more positions. The positions which we hold now, the Palestinians said, have been under our control since 1985 and if we evacuate them the Amal Movement would be on the doorstep of 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp.

Nasirite Leader Rejects Palestinian Interfighting

NC161434 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT
16 Mar 87

[Text] A hand grenade was thrown at the home of Musa Samahah in 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp at 1400 this afternoon. Samahah, his wife, daughter, and two sons, all Palestinian nationals, were injured. They were moved to Sa'd Sayil Hospital in the Jall al-Hadid area of the camp.

In another development, Eng Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization, today rejected calls and efforts to provoke inter-Palestinian fighting. He said he was prepared to aim weapons at the Palestinian parties if they fight each other. He asked: Is it possible to safeguard the citizen, city, and our cause by bringing the temple down on everyone's head through calling for Palestinian interfighting?

Karim Paqradi on Conditions for 'Settlement'

NC162226 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT
16 Mar 87

[Text] Karim Paqradi, deputy commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, has stated his belief that a final solution to the problems in Lebanon remains remote. However, he noted that the country is currently at the stage of settlement, and he stressed dialogue as a basis for reaching a solution.

In an interview with the Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation, Paqradi asserted: We do not seek a war with Syria. We have no problem with Syria as a regime and a state. However, we do have a quarrel to pick with the misconceived Syrian intervention, which is illegitimate in principle and offensive and biased in fact.

Paqradi specified five principles for a final solution:

1. The withdrawal of non-Lebanese armies from all Lebanese territory;
2. The deployment of UN emergency forces to support the Lebanese Army both within the country and along its borders;
3. The declaration of Lebanese neutrality;
4. The formulation of a new Lebanese constitution;
5. The holding of an international conference to resolve the Lebanese crisis, or to resolve regional crises, including the Lebanese problem.

Paqradi also listed five other essential elements for reaching a settlement:

1. To continue the Lebanese-Syrian negotiations even if there are no results;
2. To maintain the current truce even if it lasts for a very long time;
3. To hold a Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting;

4. To form a new expanded government;

5. To formulate a plan, through such a government, that will deal with the issue of political reform, and to draw up an extensive security scheme. This government would then direct the process of political reform and put an end to the fighting.

Paqradi expressed the view that the prospect for a successful settlement would be 100 percent if the Lebanese paper at the Lebanese-Syrian talks is accepted. He warned, however, that this prospect would be considerably diminished if the Syrian paper is allowed to impede it.

The deputy commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces noted that there are five unresolved points involved in the Lebanese-Syrian talks. He affirmed that the Lebanese Forces reject any distinctive relations based on a strategic integration that would gradually lead to a Lebanese-Syrian union. He also rejected the idea of abolishing political and administrative sectarianism before the actual sectarian situation had disappeared. He rejected any encroachment on the authorities of the president of the Republic, as well as the return of the Army to its barracks, its retraining, and its restructuring.

Paqradi also noted the Lebanese Forces rejection of a redistribution of seats within the Chamber of Deputies. He stated: The deputies do not accept a three-way equal redistribution of seats [la yaqbalun al muthalathah dimn al munasafah].

UNIFIL Denies Israeli Warning to Birri

NC161507 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT
16 Apr 87

[Text] Official UNIFIL Spokesman Timor Goksell has denied reports that General Gustav Haeggund, a UNIFIL commander, conveyed a warning from Israeli authorities to Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction and leader of the Amal Movement. He affirmed that such reports are a total fabrication. Goksell emphasized that the only subject which Gen Haeggund and Minister Birri discussed last Saturday was UNIFIL's position in the south and the Lebanese houses which the UNIFIL forces now occupy.

Goksell also denied reports carried in certain newspapers that Gen Haeggund had met with Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

Citing the Israeli paper *Davar*, AFP reported yesterday that Israel had conveyed a strongly worded warning to Minister Birri through a senior UNIFIL officer. The warning was prompted by an operation carried out by resistance men in Rahaf township last week during which an Israeli officer was killed.

Minister Birri himself has denied this report. He asserted: The report published by *Davar* and circulated by the Central News Agency is not true. At any rate, there is a war between us and Israel. Therefore, even if a threat had been made it would not have any effect on this situation.

Al-Jumayyil Sends Message to Amir of Kuwait
NC161438 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1345 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has sent a message to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait. It was delivered by 'Adnan Badra, Lebanon's ambassador to that country.

Mukhaybir Elected Deputy Chamber Speaker
NC170956 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0944 GMT
17 Mar 87

[Text] Albert Mukhaybir was elected deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies today. He received 50 votes.

AL-BA'ATH Views Pollard Case, U.S.-Israeli Ties

JN170855 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 17 Mar 87

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israel is the Cornerstone of U.S. Policy," *Al-Ba'ath* says: Since the revelation of the Pollard case and his arrest on the charge of spying for Israel, and the clamor that accompanied this case in terms of differences between the United States and Israel, facts have proved that the bridge of political, economic, and military alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv has continued and that their viewpoints on all that Israel desires are almost identical. Instead of turning the Pollard case into a trial of the Zionist course and its despicable means of obtaining data, this case has turned into a mere secret, paid relationship between Pollard and an Israeli Air Force officer with the objective of acquitting Israel from the scandal.

Al-Ba'ath adds: This issue, in its form, essence, and results will not deceive anyone and will not add anything new to the convictions of world public opinion, because Zionist-U.S. relations have become impregnable against any scandal or act of espionage, and because Israeli policy has become the cornerstone of U.S. strategy, its views on the region, and on world affairs.

AL-THAWRAH Comments on Al-Fayyum Unrest

JN130758 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 13 Mar 87

[From the press review]

[Text] In its political analysis today on the situation in Egypt, *Al-Thawrah* says: The regime in Egypt now suffers from the people's anger that is gradually increasing toward a violent outbreak. This means the Egyptian people can now have an impact on developments in Egypt from Al-Fayyum. The popular acts and mass demonstrations staged by the residents of Al-Fayyum — a governorate famous for its uprisings and a stronghold of Arabism and nationalism just like the rest of the governorates in the fraternal country — against the regime indicate that the people's anger has increased. This issue has its own causes, motives, and bases.

The deteriorating economic situation, which is a result of the open-door policy initiated by Al-Sadat, has become so prevailing that the regime can no longer be at ease as a result of its

concessions, its selling of the homeland, and its subjugation to Zionists and imperialists in general.

TISHRIN on 'Arafat's 'New Conspiracy' in Lebanon

JN151327 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1132 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] Damascus, 15 Mar (SANA) — In a comment today, the newspaper *Tishrin* explains that 'Arafat's allegation that there is a plan to deport approximately 265,000 Palestinians from Lebanon coincides with an anti-Syrian campaign launched by the Egyptian regime, which is wallowing in the mud of Camp David and which is responsible for what has happened in Lebanon since 1975 until now.

The paper says the attempts of 'Arafat and the Cairo regime to cast doubts on Syria's salvation role in Lebanon aim, in fact, to undermine the Syrian initiative, which ended the recent abnormal situation in Beirut that provided a perfect atmosphere for the moves of the Camp David parties aimed at exporting crises and propagating a new stage of the capitulationist deal of disgrace.

The paper adds that everyone, whether in Lebanon or anywhere, admits that the Syrian initiative has restored tranquility, security, and stability, and provided a historical opportunity for all Lebanese to embark on a serious dialogue that could result in a national accord that would sever the black hands that attempt to tamper with Lebanon's security, stability and future and turn it into war theater for the renegades and those panting behind capitulationist solutions and a good conduct paper to present to the American master to bless their disgraceful entry into Camp David.

The paper says that following his failure to obtain world sympathy while he was lamenting the Palestinians in the camps and after the exposure of his intentions before the world, 'Arafat is trying to draw up an imaginary plan in coordination with the Cairo regime and the Reagan administration in an attempt to return to Lebanon and set fires anew.

Concluding its comment, *Tishrin* says all the Lebanese and Palestinians are alert to this new conspiracy. The conspirators and those supporting them will be sure that Lebanon will neither be a passage or a residence for them. The march of salvation has begun. It will remove from its way all traitors, agents, and killers of our Arab people on the altar of U.S. settlement.

Pollard Lawyers Deny Receiving Funds From Israel

TA162011 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] The attorneys for the Pollards, the (Habey) brothers, this evening denied having received funds from Israel to cover the expenses of the trial. Our correspondent in Washington, Nisim Mish'al, reports that according to the attorneys a balance due of approximately \$200,000 owed them by the Pollards remains unchanged. The sum of around \$80,000, which was reported as having been transferred from Israel, did not reach them.

Our correspondent adds that in the wake of the report in Israel on the transfer of money to cover the Pollards' trial expenses the U.S. Department of Justice is now examining the legal aspect of a money transfer to the Pollards.

No Government Funds Sent

TA170618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] About a year ago, private elements in Israel transferred some \$80,000 to finance the trial expenses of the Pollards. This is reported by our correspondent in Washington Shim'on Schiffer. When the money was transferred, these private elements promised to finance all the remaining trial expenses.

Our correspondent points out that the Israeli Government did not transfer any money whatsoever — neither to the families of the Pollards nor to their lawyers — and that the money will be handed out by private elements also in the future. No money has been handed out to cover expenses since the Pollard trial ended.

Support Fund 'Deluged'

TA130859 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
13 Mar 87 pp 1, 20

[Report by Simon Louissan]

[Text] A group calling itself "Citizens in Support of the Pollards" has been deluged with cash and support following the placement of advertisements in local papers.

While no overall calculation has yet been made, a cheque of \$10,000 was sent the group by a company called Schuster and several other thousand-dollar contributions have been received. Telephone calls of support have been pouring in "day and night."

The group was formed by seven friends from Palmach days who believe the Israeli Government has forsaken the Pollard couple, convicted of spying in the U.S., and that they deserve the support of the people of Israel.

Amnon Dror, the spokesman for the group, said they couldn't just stand by after the Pollards had knocked on the closed gates of the Israeli Embassy in Washington.

"The Israeli Embassy was a natural, legitimate address for them. They had no idea if the prime minister or any other minister knew

about them, but they were certain that they were legitimate emissaries of our government and they deserve our sympathy," he said.

Dror described the Pollards as "naive and very positive people" who are now alone and neglected.

"The human aspect is our only consideration," he said.

The formation of the group and the public's response was a declaration that the people of Israel did not associate with the government's behaviour in the affair, he added.

"The Pollards were certain that since Israel and America are profoundly friendly allies, to an extent seldom reached, they didn't wrong the U.S."

"If the government says they acted independently - maybe it is so; but how could the Pollards know that? The only thing they knew was that they were serving Israel without harming their country," Dror said.

The money raised by their campaign has a threefold purpose: to show the support of "hundreds of thousands" of Israelis; to assist the Pollards, who are now broke; and perhaps to help "someone create an atmosphere which will cause the American authorities to somehow ease the punishment."

The father of Anne Henderson-Pollard made an emotional appeal to Israelis yesterday to help his family.

"Here is somebody who is suffering, who is accused of hideous crimes and please, somebody, listen. We don't have enough money to do this," Bernard said in a telephone interview with Galey Tzahal [IDF Radio].

Public Supports Aid for Pollards

TA131158 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
13 Mar 87 p 1

[Dahaf Institute poll]

[Text] A great majority of the public believes that the Israeli Government must help Jonathan and Anne Pollard; a majority believes that the Pollard affair should be investigated in the framework of an independent body with limited authority (such as the fact-finding committee the Inner Cabinet has decided to establish). Regarding the issue of a judicial commission of inquiry the public is divided, with a slight plurality against such an investigation.

These findings were revealed by a public opinion poll conducted for Yedi'ot Aharonot on the 11th of this month. The poll included a representative sample of 639 adults, who were interviewed in person.

Question: Are you for or against an investigation into the Pollard affair in the framework of an independent body with limited authority? (answers in percentages)

for — 51 against — 35 no opinion — 14

Question: Are you for or against the investigation of the Pollard affair in the framework of a state commission of inquiry with wide authority?

for — 41 against — 46 no opinion — 13

Question: Do you think Israel should help the Pollards, and if so, who has to help them?

The government — 68. The public — 22 percent. Israel should not help them — 8. No opinion — 2.

Officials Continue To React to Pollard Committee

Shamir on Implementation

TA151313 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 15 Mar 87 p 2

[Report by Pe'erli Shahar]

[Excerpt] "There is no difference of opinion between myself and Peres regarding the implementation of the conclusions of the fact-finding committee into the Pollard affair." This was said over the weekend by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to his associates, following reports that the two had such differences of opinion.

The prime minister's associates have said Shamir was only referring to the legal aspect when he said there is no obligation to implement the recommendations of the fact-finding committee, and in this respect even a judicial commission of inquiry is not binding. People in the Prime Minister's Office said former Premier Begin was not obliged to implement the recommendations of the committee that probed the Shabra and Shatila massacres; the issue was at his judgment. However, it is obvious that from the ethical point of view the government and its head will act according to the findings of the committee. [passage omitted]

Peres Urges Probe of Politicians

TA150558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] Vice Premier Shim'on Peres says while the Rotenstreich Committee investigating the Pollard affair cannot legally force the government to accept its recommendations, its findings must nevertheless be implemented. Speaking to members of the Hadassah's jubilee mission in Jerusalem last night, Peres said to the best of his knowledge no member of the cabinet approved the Pollard operation and he advised the committee to investigate political leaders to remove what he called false accusations of their involvement. More details in this report from Steve Weizman:

[Begin recording] [Weizman] Taking questions from a panel of journalists and from the floor, Peres said that to the best of his knowledge no cabinet member had ever approved the Pollard spy operation. Accusations to the contrary were false, he said, and he

advised the two-man committee investigating the affair to quiz politicians:

[Peres] I mean I wouldn't like to appear as a spokesman for them, but if you ask for my guess, I would say yes, and if they will ask for my advice I shall say yes, please do it, because of these false accusations.

[Weizman] Asked about the committee's authority to do so and to have its recommendations put into practice, Peres said it was true that the committee did not have the force of law with which to impose recommendations. It did, however, have a moral power that the government had no choice but to obey, he said:

[Peres] Once a government appoints an investigating committee, or an inquiry committee, it must understand fully and completely that the recommendations must be respected and implemented, because otherwise they will lose the trust of people. The government is based on the trust of people. So I say very clearly, once we have a committee, morally and publicly the recommendations of this committee will be completely respected, that's our wish and we don't have a choice.

[Weizman] Many of the questions from the Hadassah delegates themselves dealt with the Pollards' plea for help from the Israeli Embassy in Washington shortly before they were arrested by FBI agents. The embassy refused to let them in, said Peres, because it had not mobilized Pollard. Staff at the embassy were completely surprised, he said. Peres went on to say that Israel was completely opposed to spying in the United States and to back Pollard could be construed as support for his actions. Why should we give the wrong impression, he said. We are in America for their sympathy, not for spying. [end recording]

Rabin: U.S. Keeping Case Alive

TA161155 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin believes some officials in the U.S. Administration are deliberately keeping the Pollard affair alive in a mistaken effort to find other Israeli intelligence agents. Talking to visiting members of the Hadassah Women's Organization in Jerusalem this morning, Rabin said he wanted to make it clear that Israel does not carry out any espionage activities in the United States. With more, reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Rabin said that as soon as the Pollard affair became known, Israel's leaders pledged full cooperation with the U.S. authorities in any investigation. Taking what he said was an unprecedented action for any sovereign government, Israel apologized for the serious, major mistake that had been revealed, explained it was an exception carried out without the knowledge of the political leadership, and promised to disclose whatever the U.S. authorities wanted. The U.S. Government agreed to grant immunity to any Israelis who testified, and Israel agreed to let a visiting mission question any Israeli whom they wanted.

[Rabin] The delegation came over. We asked them: Whom do you want to question? They gave us a list. They were allowed to question anyone that they put on the list. Our team asked them again: Do you have anyone more, or any other names? They didn't ask. To make it clear, they were told that there was another Israeli that didn't play a major role. They didn't ask then to question him.

[Ben-'Ami] Only months later did U.S. officials begin to ask about the involvement of Air Force Colonel Avi'em Sela', said Rabin, and he was ready to talk to them. But the Americans were not willing to give him immunity as agreed earlier. The defense minister says he doubts that Jonathan Pollard would have confessed to espionage were it not for the testimony and documents made available from here. And yet, despite all this, his trial and sentencing were delayed four times. We started to be suspicious of another purpose behind it all, said Rabin.

[Rabin] A key figure in the prosecution of Pollard said to two of our lawyers, separately, and I am quoting: From my point of view, Sela' can be the chief of the Israeli Air Force if you will give me another name or names. The insinuation of what was said is that Israel doesn't tell the truth. Therefore, this is the issue that prevented the completion and ending and removing aside the Pollard case as a result of our cooperation.

[Ben-'Ami] The defense minister says he does not believe this is an attitude shared by many Administration officials, but nevertheless:

[Rabin] Let me make it clear: Israel doesn't carry any espionage activities in the United States. There are no Americans or non-Americans who serve as spies for Israel against the United States. This should be clear to the American people and to everybody. [end recording]

Sharon Hits Peres Handling

TA170733 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT
17 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Trade and Industry Minister Ari'el Sharon has harshly criticized Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres for the way he handled the Pollard affair after it broke out. In Sharon's opinion, Peres dealt with the affair in a very inappropriate manner, putting Israel in a tight spot. Minister Sharon was addressing Herut activists in Sderot last night, and our correspondent Yaron Deqel reports on his remarks from the studio: [passage omitted]

[Begin Sharon recording] In my opinion, we were thrown into this imbroglio mainly as a result of the way the man who was prime minister in 1985 dealt with the affair. [end recording]

[Deqel — live] Sharon also lashed out against the way the media has been dealing with the affair, claiming that the press has been forcefully extracting statements from U.S. Jewish leaders saying that they are in a serious situation. He described the attitude of the media as irresponsible.

Minister Sharon attacked Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres on yet another count: his political initiatives. Sharon quoted an old newspaper headline stating that Peres was building the relationships with Europe and the United States. This builder, Sharon later remarked scornfully, has brought us to a situation where our entire relationship with the United States is shaky and a new affair breaks out every day. [passage omitted]

Sharon Not To Suspend Eytan

TA131149 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 13 Mar 87 p 3

[Report by Pe'erli Shahar]

[Text] Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon does not plan to temporarily suspend Rafi Eytan from his position until the investigation into the Pollard affair is over. Minister Sharon has told his associates on various occasions that the demand that Rafi Eytan be dismissed from his position as chairman of Israel Chemicals is surprising in view of the fact that this is a person who left the military sector and is currently dealing in strictly civilian matters. The associates asked: "Would people have demanded Rafi Eytan's resignation had he been a bus driver?" and wonder "what connection there is between a person's civilian profession and an examination of matters that have nothing to do with his current position."

Air Force on Sela' Promotion

TA151405 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Mar 87
pp 1, 2a

[Report by Yosef Walter, Refa'el Mann, and Ran Dagoni]

[Excerpt] Several of the Air Force officers who participated in meetings aimed at promoting Avi'em Sela' with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin have voiced regret over the pressure they exerted, stressing that it had not been clear to them then what implications such a step would have on Israeli-U.S. relations.

An examination recently carried out in the Air Force shows that no invitation to the ceremony at Tel Nof, in which Avi'em Sela' received command of the base, was sent to any American element, including the military attache.

A senior official made it clear yesterday that the Air Force's senior echelon was surprised by the reports published recently claiming that the United States had learned about his promotion and appointment as Tel Nof base commander after the military attache at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv received an invitation to attend the ceremony. The matter was examined, and it turns out that no invitation was sent to any U.S. element and that the United States had learned about the ceremony from its own sources. As early as several weeks ago, the Americans approached Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and emphasized that the United States had learned that Avi'em Sela' was about to be promoted both in position and rank, and that this would be contradicting Israel's promises that the appropriate measures would be taken against those involved in the affair and that they would not be promoted.

A senior military source told *Ma'ariv* yesterday: "Lately the Air Force has been presented as a cult of insensitive idiots who are uninterested in the implications promoting Avi'em Sela' would have on Israel-U.S. relations — and that the Air Force played into the Americans' hands by extending an invitation to the ceremony at Tel Nof. [no closing quotation mark as published]"

A senior military source made it clear that just as there is no truth to the report about Americans having been invited to the ceremony, so the rumors that Rabin was pressured by many Air force officers were exaggerated. [passage omitted]

Shultz on Post-Affair Ties

TA130831 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
13 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] The U.S. does not intend exacerbating the crisis in American-Israeli relations following the Pollard affair, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz yesterday informed Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. The message was conveyed to Peres during a two-hour meeting with U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering.

Pickering told Peres about the general feeling towards Israel in the U.S.

Israeli sources said most of the conversation focused on the peace process.

Weizman Supports Investigation

TA131755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman believes the Pollard affair is painful, complicated, unnecessary, and stupid and should unquestionably be fully investigated. He told our correspondent Tal Rabina that, in his opinion, the appropriate way to examine this affair is to set up a state investigation commission [va'adat haqira mamlakhtit]. However, he supports the Inner Cabinet's decision to set up a fact-finding committee [va'adat berur].

Minister Weizman also rejects appeals to Colonel Avi'em Sela' to resign to help improve relations with the United States. In Weizman's opinion, there is no room for such suggestions after the setting up of the fact-finding committee. Those who are calling on Col Sela' to resign may have to take such a step themselves, Weizman stated.

U.S. Army Secretary Arrives for Visit 16 March

TA161530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] U.S. Secretary of the Army John Marsh arrived in Israel this afternoon. He was welcomed by Major General 'Amos Yaron on behalf of the defense establishment. Yaron said the IDF attaches great importance to the visit precisely now that there are problems in Israeli-U.S. relations.

Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports that U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering told reporters at Ben-Gurion Airport that there is no significant change in relations between the two countries in light of the Pollard affair with the exception of the instruction given to Americans not to have any contact with Colonel Avi'em Sela' and with the Tel Nof Air Force Base.

Shamir, Egyptian Consul on Tabah, Conference

TA131223 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Mar 87 p 6a

[Report by Avino'am Bar-yosef]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir last night told Ahmad al-Masri, the Egyptian consul in Elat, that the arbitration agreement on Tabah was superfluous. "We are paying each of the arbitrators \$100,000, and all we are talking about is a 900-meter strip of land the sovereignty of which is unimportant."

Mr Shamir suggested that the arbitration be halted and that a process of conciliation be started with the objective of jointly developing the area. He proposed that a casino be opened there which would bring in a lot of money for both countries.

Shamir also said that Peres' position on the international conference issue, as expressed in the latter's talks with Mubarak, is not binding on the government.

Asked by the consul whether the Israeli foreign minister was not authorized to speak on behalf of the country, Shamir replied that because of the special composition of the government, and because the question of the international conference is in dispute, Peres is not allowed to commit himself to foreign elements on this issue.

Hungarian Envoy Begins 'Unofficial' Visit 12 Mar

TA131218 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Mar 87
pp A1, 2

[Report by Menahem Rahat]

[Text] Dr Jeno Rande, 64, the most senior Hungarian figure to come to Israel since Hungary severed its relations with Israel in 1967 arrived here yesterday. He bears the personal title of ambassador, and serves as secretary of the World Federation of Hungarians.

Dr Rande, who is still a member of the Hungarian Foreign Affairs Ministry, has come on an unofficial mission on behalf of this ministry. The World Federation of Hungarians is an unofficial branch of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, set up to handle those issues the ministry itself cannot deal with, such as contacts with countries with which Hungary has no diplomatic relations.

While in Israel, Dr Rande will meet with the heads of the Foreign Ministry, including Political Director General Dr Yosi Beilin. Dr Rande told *Ma'ariv* last night that he had not brought with him any official message from the Hungarian Government, but that there will certainly be issues of common interest to discuss with his interlocutors in the Israeli Foreign Ministry. He added that

he would be happy to meet with as many senior Israeli officials as possible to exchange opinions.

As for the resumption of diplomatic relations between Hungary and Israel, Dr Rande said he had not been authorized to discuss the issue, but added that the bilateral relations can definitely be expected to intensify in light of the fact that they have improved tremendously in the past 2 years "and they will certainly improve even more."

Dr Rande arrived here from Budapest via Vienna at the invitation of the Association for the Promotion of Israeli-Hungarian relations. He will be in Israel for 6 days during which time he will tour the country and meet with senior personalities and Israeli Government officials.

Discusses Ties With Beilin

TA161239 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1153 GMT
16 Mar 87

[Text] Dr Jeno Rande, the Hungarian envoy and secretary general of the World Federation of Hungarians, conducted talks this morning with Foreign Ministry Political Director General Yoai Beilin. During the meeting, the Hungarian envoy said his country is interested in good relations with Israel and that as long as full relations do not exist between the two countries, he is offering the services of the organization that he heads to strengthen ties between the two countries. The Foreign Ministry political director general told his guest that the Eastern bloc made a mistake in 1967 when it severed ties with Israel, adding that the countries of that bloc now understand that in doing this, they neutralized themselves regarding any involvement in the region.

Peres on Coal From PRC, South Africa Sanctions

TA151014 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
15 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by Arye Rubinstein]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Peres said last night that Israel "could buy coal from China and Australia," and was not bound to South African coal.

Answering questions at Hadassah's "Meet the Press" event in the capital, Peres said that on the question of sanctions against South Africa, Israel was closer to the European approach than to the (more farreaching) American one. But Israel would follow any decision taken by the West. [passage omitted]

Peres Predicts Knesset Elections in 1987

TA131214 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 13 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by party affair correspondent 'Aliza Wallach]

[Text] During a closed meeting this week, Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres assessed that elections to the 12th Knesset would be held during 1987.

"It seems we are moving toward elections before the end of 1987," Peres said. "It is only a matter of who accumulates more points."

The Independent Liberal Party shares this same sentiment; for this reason the party will hold a convention in June. At the moment there is a majority among the Independent Liberals supporting the consolidation of a central liberal body, that will be based on Shinui, the Liberal Center Party, and the Independent Liberal Party.

During a meeting this week between the Independent Liberal Party leadership and Minister Peres and Labor Party Secretary 'Uzi Bar'am, Peres said the Labor Party would like to continue the partnership with the Independent Liberals, but does not object to the Liberals forming a central party body.

Senior Officers Obtain Lapidot Briefing on Lavi

TA151122 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] At the request of senior Air Force officers, Major General 'Amos Lapidot, the Air Force commander, held a thorough discussion with them regarding the force's stand vis-a-vis the Lavi project. The senior officers requested this discussion to receive in an official, detailed, and complete way all the updated figures regarding the Lavi. The senior officers were presented with all the figures and calculations in the Air Force's possession, and they were told how the force is expected to look following the completion of the Lavi project.

During the discussion Maj Gen Lapidot emphasized that only if the Lavi receives \$1.5 billion beyond what is planned will it be possible to complete the project. In any other circumstance there is no future to the project, Lapidot emphasized. He assessed that it will be possible to receive this sum from the government, because the Lavi is a national project.

The participants wanted the Air Force commander's assurance that their stand will be presented to the decisionmakers before the decision is made concerning the future of the Lavi.

It should be noted that this is the first time that such a forum of senior officers have expressed their opinion on the Lavi project to the Air Force commander.

ALGERIA

USSR Delegation Arrives, Tours Steel Complex
LD161824 Algiers APS in French 1200 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Annaba [dateline as received] — A Soviet trade union delegation has been in Annaba in eastern Algeria since last Friday within the framework of exchanges between the trade unions of both countries.

The Soviet delegation visited the El Hadjar iron and steel complex and the national company making railway equipment, Ferroval.

During these two visits, the guests discussed work conditions and their position with Soviet and Algerian workers at these two plants.

Messaadia, SDAR President Hold Talks 14 March
LD142253 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] Recent developments in the Western Sahara and the victories achieved by the Saharan people in the political and military fields were among subjects discussed at talks held at noon today at the FLN central offices between brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, and Mohamed Abdelaziz, SDAR president and Polisario secretary general.

The meeting allowed both sides to review and analyze the experience of both countries and peoples in the course of the struggle of the peoples for their self-determination.

The meeting was attended by Sadek Zouaten, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee in charge of the Council for Friendship and Solidarity With Foreign Peoples.

MAP: Former Minister, Others Under House Arrest
LD141554 Rabat MAP in English 1245 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] Algiers, Mar 14 (MAP) — A former Algerian minister under the presidency of Ahmed Ben Bella, Mohamed Seghir Nekkache and his spouse are under house arrest at Ouargla, southern Algeria, since last February.

The reasons behind this measure which was not officially announced were not disclosed. However close relatives of the arrested people have underlined the "illegal" character of the house arrest measures.

Nekkache, a physician who has kept his distance from Ben Bella since 1981 had already been arrested in 1965 for his opposition to the overthrow of the first Algerian president Ben Bella by the revolution council headed by Houari Boumediene.

Nekkache was then placed under house arrest from 1969 to 1971 and again arrested in October 1983 after the discovery at the French-Belgian borders of a batch of smuggled weapons destined to Algeria. His spouse Ulla Britta was arrested at the same time under the charge of spying and attempt to [undermine] the security of the state.

With these two new arrests the number of people placed under house arrest amounts to 22: 4 at Ouargla, 3 at Hassi Messaoud and 15 at Borj Omar Driss.

The arrested people include lawyer Abdenour ali-Yahia, president of the banned Algerian League for Human Rights, several members or supporters of the league, intellectuals, and people suspected of being Ben Bella's supporters.

According to reliable sources, the brother of Mustapha Bouali, an fundamentalist activist leader who was shot down on January 3, 1987 by the Algerian forces, is under house arrest at Borj Omar Driss after he served a prison sentence for his interest.

LIBYA

GUNT President Visits Al-Qadhdhafi Residence
LD161753 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1523 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Mar (JANA) — The GUNT president and government members have emphasized that the Chadian people will continue their heroic struggle against the crusading invasion of France and the United States until the total liberation of Chadian soil from the desecration of colonialism and the establishment of the Chadian people's unity.

Acheikh ibn Omar, in a message he wrote in the visitor's book when accompanied by GUNT government members and its ambassadors, stated that we strongly denounce the failed U.S.-Atlantic barbaric aggression by the leader of international terrorism, the United States, and its European allies against the Libyan Arab people and the residence of the brother leader of the revolution.

He added that the Chadian people promise its fraternal Libyan Arab people to defend freedom, establish democracy, and continue the holy war against the forces of the French and American crusading invasion in Chad until the liberation of the homeland territories and Africa from the desecration of colonialism and reaction.

YAR President Continues Talks With Al-Qadhdhafi
JN161429 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] An official round of YAR-Libyan talks was held in the city of Surt yesterday evening led by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. They discussed ways to foster bilateral cooperation and reviewed Arab and international developments. The two sides stressed their desire to further strengthen bilateral ties in the best interests of the

Yemeni and Libyan peoples and Arab aspirations of unity and progress.

They also noted the political success scored in both Libya and the YAR through establishing a General People's Congress. Setting up a General People's Congress, they observed, was inspired by the historical heritage of both countries, which cherish the peoples' right to freedom and democracy. They expressed their deep satisfaction over the advanced state of bilateral ties on both popular and official levels.

The YAR and Libyan sides voiced their deep concern over the fierce imperialist and Zionist anti-Arab campaigns posing a threat to Arab survival and interests. The only way out of Arab disarray and disintegration, they emphasized, is to strive for Arab solidarity in the interest of Arab aspirations.

The talks were attended on the Yemeni side by Brothers 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, head of the Constituent People's Assembly, and Standing Committee member; Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member; Muhahid Abu Shawarib, deputy prime minister for domestic affairs and Standing Committee member; ('Ali Muqbil Butayni), head of the Central Auditing Apparatus and Standing Committee member; Dr Muhammad Ahmad al-Kabab, minister of health and Standing Committee member; Ahmad Muhammad al-Radi, secretary general of the presidency and Standing Committee member; the YAR ambassador to Libya: Lieutenant Colonel ('Ali 'Abdallah Sayhani), under secretary at the Interior Ministry for Security and member of the General People's Congress; 'Adil Khurshid, under secretary at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources; Lieutenant Colonel 'Abd al-Rahman Hamzah, deputy head of planning and organization at the Armed Forces General Command and member of the General People's Congress.

On the Libyan side the talks were attended by Brothers Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the RCC; 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Congress; Eng Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison; Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Services; Dr Fathi Shtawan, secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry; and Dr Muhammad Farahat, secretary of the General People's Congress for Planning.

Tours Oil Port With Al-Jumaydi
LD162014 Tripoli JANA in English 1816 GMT
16 Mar 87

[Text] Al-Burayqah, Al-Marikh 16, *Jamahiriya News Agency* — Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih the president of the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) and a number of his accompanying delegation's member paid a visit to Al-Burayqah oil port accompanied by Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi.

The secretary and members of the administrative committee of Sidra oil company, the secretary of the people's committee for the administration of the great man-made river project and the

secretary of the Basic People's Congress in Al-Burayqah welcomed the president of sisterly YAR on his arrival.

The guest of Great Jamahiriya, accompanied by Major al-Khuwaylidi visited various parts of this huge oil port. He also inspected the water pipes factory of the great man-made river project, the second methanol factory and the neutral gas factory listening to detailed briefings on those huge industrial fortresses erected on the land of Great Jamahiriya, thanks to the great al-Fatih revolution. He expressed relief, pleasure and high appreciation at what giant achievements the Libyan Arab people has accomplished nationally and culturally.

In a note he registered at the second methanol factory, he wrote 'We were very pleased on our visit to the petrol chemical complex. It is considered a great achievement for the Arab nation in general and a big development achievement to the Arab people of Great Jamahiriya'.

Economic Cooperation Committee With YAR Meets
LD162020 Tripoli JANA in English 1813 GMT
16 Mar 87

[Text] Defiance Gulf, Al-Marikh 16, *Jamahiriya News Agency* — The Libyan Arab-Yemeni Committee for Economic Cooperation held a meeting this morning in the Defiance Gulf during which it reviewed the ratified protocols between both sisterly countries Great Jamahiriya and Yemen Arab Republic (YAR).

The committee discussed the potentials of cooperation between the one Arab people of North Yemen and Great Jamahiriya in the fields of agriculture, planning communication, marine transport and joint investment.

The committee expressed pleasure at accomplishing most articles of the signed protocols between both sisterly countries. It put stress on the importance of continued work towards accomplishing the remaining articles in a way that ensures mutual interests.

Egypt Uses 'Psychological Torture' Against Air Crew
LD142251 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1825 GMT
14 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Al-Mirikh (JANA) — Informed sources in the vanquished capital [Cairo] have affirmed that the regime of the "kneeling" Husni [Mubarak] is still pursuing the campaign of psychological torture and intimidation against the crew of the Libyan Arab aircraft that was forced to land at Abu Simbel Airport on 2 March because of bad weather.

The sources pointed out that the "kneeling" regime is transferring the members of the Libyan Arab aircraft crew from one place to another in strict security and great secrecy in an attempt to force them to give information about the Great Jamahiriya.

The sources deplored this piratic operation and the holding of the aircraft without justification. They also condemned the torture

of its crew throughout the detention, which contravenes all international and humanitarian standards and laws.

MOROCCO

King Hassan II, Saudi's King Fahd Hold Talks
LD162328 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
 2300 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God make him victorious, held tete-a-tete talks at the Royal Palace in Fes this evening with his brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques.

SUDAN

Iran's Velayati Confers With Foreign Minister
LD161737 Tehran IRNA in English 1557 GMT
 16 Mar 87

[Text] Tehran, March 16, IRNA — Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati conferred with his Sudanese counterpart Zayn al-'Abidin al-Sharif al-Hindi in Khartoum Monday, on issues of mutual interest including the Iraqi-imposed war and other political developments of the region.

The Sudanese minister lauded the strides taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran in expanding Tehran-Khartoum relations. He expressed gratitude for help rendered to the Sudanese people, by the Islamic Republic as relief towards drought in that country.

Al-Hindi called for further coordination of the two countries at international forums including Non-Aligned Movement, and Islamic Conference Organization.

In response, Velayati said that most of the global powers do not want Sudan to be a powerful Islamic nation in Africa. But, he added, Iran believes that Sudan will remain as a 'powerful shield' against global arrogance despite those powers' plots.

The Islamic Republic believes that Africa is continent of Islam, Velayati said, adding "Islam is the only way for the salvation of African nations." Because, he stressed, Iran's experience has shown that all other ways lead to defeat.

Velayati emphasised the Islamic Republic of Iran backs any kind of Islamic movement in the world. Iran is prepared to render help to Muslim Sudan to revive itself and eliminate the destructions wrought in this country during Ja'far Numayri's dictatorial tenure, he added.

On the Iraqi-imposed war, the Iranian foreign minister said that an anti-Islamic regime invaded the newly-founded Islamic revolution [as received] of Iran and is still insisting on its invasion. "The Islamic Republic of Iran is defending itself against the aggressive regime of Iraq," he stressed.

"Our fair demand is punishment of the aggressor and also to rid the regional peoples of the Baghdad government," Velayati said.

The Iranian foreign minister invited his Sudanese counterpart to visit Iran. Al-Hindi warmly welcomed the invitation, announcing his readiness to visit Tehran in June, 1987.

Velayati arrived in Khartoum on Saturday at the head of a delegation.

Departs 16 March

JN161520 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT
 16 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — The Iranian delegation led by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left Khartoum this morning following a 3-day visit to the country during which the delegation held talks with the foreign minister and met with the State Council chairman and members as well as with the prime minister.

A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry said that during the talks between the two countries, which were chaired by the two foreign ministers, there was agreement on forming a technical political committee to be cochaired by the foreign ministers of the two countries that will hold periodic meetings in Khartoum and Tehran. He pointed out that this committee will be incorporated into the joint ministerial committee of the two countries for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, which was formed during the energy minister's recent visit to Iran. It will be cochaired by the Sudanese energy minister and the Iranian metals minister. He added that the competent authorities in the two countries will take legal and constitutional procedures to endorse the new committee.

The source also said that during the talks between the two sides there was a discussion of ways to implement the memorandums of understanding signed by the two countries to bolster and consolidate bilateral cooperation.

Foreign Ministry on 'Balance' in Iraq-Iran Ties
JN161630 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT
 16 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — The Foreign Ministry has affirmed that the normalization of Sudanese relations with Iran will not be at the expense of Sudanese relations with Iraq. This was announced by a responsible source at the Foreign Ministry. In a statement on Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati's visit, which ended today, the source said that after Sudan has restored balance in its foreign relations with friendly and fraternal countries, this relationship with Iran has become a natural matter between two Muslim countries belonging to the ICO. He added that the Sudanese Government, on its part and through visits paid by high political figures of the country, attempts to prove the true balance in its foreign policy, particularly toward Iraq and Iran. He referred to the prime minister's initiative in

this regard, which involved contacts with both Iraq and Iran to stop the war.

Chadian Delegation Conveys Message to Al-Mahdi

JN161308 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT

16 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — A Chadian delegation representing Goukouni Oueddei, former head of the Chadian GUNT, during its current visit to Khartoum held meetings with 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Sin, State Council member and official in charge of African affairs in the Council, and Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi on the Chadian issue and its developments.

This was reported today by the newspaper *Al-Siyasah*. It quoted (Adam Togo), head of the delegation, as saying that he conveyed to the prime minister a message from Goukouni containing his opinion about solving the Chadian problem. He believes that Sudan's mediation in the first stage should politically unify the Chadians themselves. The state of reconciliation between Chad and the Libyan Jamahiriya should come later.

(Togo) explained to the newspaper that they, as Chadians, have reached agreement on the military level, while there are still some controversial issues over which no agreement has been reached. He pointed out that Al-Mahdi promised to respond to Goukouni's message during the next 2 days and that the response will convey the government's opinion about the issues presented by Goukouni's message.

(Togo) also pointed out that they [not further identified] met with Dr Taj al-Din during his visit to Algiers last month and conveyed to him their viewpoint about the Chadian question. On the solutions proposed by them, he said that they welcome any Sudanese initiative to unify the Chadians and that to achieve this unity they believe that authority should be divided between them and the current Chadian Government of Hissein Habre under the supervision of the OAU.

It is noteworthy that the national armed forces under Goukouni Oueddei, who is currently in Algeria, signed an agreement last summer under which they joined the Chadian Government forces. However, no political agreement for final reconciliation between the Chadian Government and Goukouni Oueddei's movement has been signed.

Al-Mahdi Comments on South, Chadian Conflict

JN151347 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT

15 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Mar (SUNA) — Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister and minister of defense, has told *Al-Siyasah* in its issue today that the government's initiative on negotiations with the rebel movement will be made public after 10 days.

The prime minister indicated that the initiative is clear-cut and based on a comprehensive review of the internal situation. In that initiative, the government, the prime minister added, proposes what it deems possible and what also helps advance the peace

process. He said that the seminar on the peaceful solution for the conflict in southern Sudan that was recently held in the United States and in which elements of the rebel movement participated, yielded positive results. He added that John Garang displayed good intentions concerning the launching of a dialogue [between the Sudanese Government and the rebel movement].

On the Sudanese initiative to end the Chadian conflict, the prime minister emphasized that Sudan is still exerting efforts in this regard. He pointed out that there are now two Sudanese delegations, one in Tripoli and one in Ndjamena, that are continuing their efforts in this regard.

The prime minister indicated that a Chadian delegation representing Goukouni Oueddei arrived in Khartoum and that the visiting Chadian delegation welcomed Sudan's initiative and the efforts it is exerting in this regard.

Al-Mahdi emphasized that the Libyan troops who entered Sudanese territory with the relief convoy sent by the Libyans to Darfur left Sudanese territory and are now on their way to the Libyan Jamahiriya.

Libya To Lift Restriction on Deposits Transfers

JN162011 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT

16 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — The Libyan Jamahiriya has agreed to lift restrictions on the transfer of the deposits of Sudanese workers in Libya. This was announced today by Energy and Mining Minister Dr Adam Musa Madibu after he and his delegation returned from a week-long visit to the Jamahiriya. He pointed out that the discussion of the remittances of Sudanese workers in the Jamahiriya will take place when the Libyan labor minister [title as received] visits Sudan in June.

The minister added that during the visit an agreement was reached to import petroleum products from Libya within the context of the discussion of ways to implement the agreements concluded between the two countries, particularly in the fields of veterinary medicine, customs, trade, and border trade. Views were exchanged on Arab, African, and Islamic issues.

SPLA Radio on Recent Battles, Government Losses

Steamer Destroyed 10 March

EA161828 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese

People's Liberation Army in English

1300 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] SPLA units of Fashoda Battalion destroyed an enemy steamer at Kodok on 10 March 1987. More details of the attack are not yet available.

Bahr al-Arab Taken in 2 Clashes

*EA161906 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese
People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Excerpt] According to the latest reports from northern Bahr al-Ghazal, two clashes that occurred on 3d and 4th March 1987 respectively, between SPLA units and Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's militia have left the SPLA in total control of the area surrounding the River Lol, otherwise known as the Bahr al-Arab.

Our correspondent in the area says that the first battle took place on 3d March at (Matjang Dill) alongside the River Kir, south east of Abyei Town, between units of Eagle and Abyei task force on the one hand and elements of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's militia forces on the other. SPLA troops, who are under the overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Chuol Ayuwak, carried out these attacks in retaliation against earlier brutal raids by Al-Sadiq's militia against the innocent civilian population.

The next day, on 4th March 1987, units of Jamus and Eagle clashed with the enemy militia also near (Matjang Dill). The two operations left more than 25 enemy militiamen dead, in addition to 700 head of cattle, which died of thirst.

The overall commander of the SPLA forces in the area has told our correspondent that Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's militia are now faced with two choices after SPLA troops have asserted their control over the rivers. According to the commander, the militia now have to choose between living in harmony with the [words indistinct] or exposing themselves and their livestock, through their aggressive activities, to death from thirst. [passage omitted]

Sawmill Captured 8 March

*EA161915 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese
People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Excerpts] SPLA forces of Twik Twik, Bee, and Nile [Battalions] have captured (Bong Nuer) station between Wau and Uwayl. The occupation of (Bong Nuer), which has a gigantic sawmill operated by the Forestry Department, took place on 8 March 1987. The operation, conducted under the command of Captain Samuel Deng Deng, caused heavy casualties to the enemy in both men and materials. The installations at (Bong Nuer) were all destroyed. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent says that 10 lorries were also burned. [passage omitted] The engine of the Forestry Department was also destroyed. [passage omitted] The drivers of the lorries have also been taken captive. [passage omitted]

ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa Reports Government Reshuffle 16 Mar

EA161838 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
1700 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] The PMAC today announced the following position changes and promotions:

Comrade Wollie Chekol, WPE Central Committee member, from minister of foreign trade to minister of finance;
Comrade Major General Haile Giorgis Habte Mariam, WPE Central Committee member, becomes minister of defense;
Comrade Tadese Gebre Kidan, WPE Central Committee member, becomes minister of foreign trade;
Comrade Major General Fanta Belai, WPE Central Committee member, becomes minister of industry;
Comrade Wendayen Meheretu, alternate member of the WPE Central Committee, becomes minister of law and justice;
Comrade Major General Merid Negusie, WPE Central Committee member, becomes chief of staff of the Armed Forces;
Comrade Brigadier General Amaha Desta, alternate member of the WPE Central Committee, becomes commander of the Air Force;
Comrade Bekele Tamirat becomes general manager of the National Bank;
Comrade Ketsela Mulat, deputy minister of foreign trade, becomes deputy minister of law and justice;
Comrade Iyasu Demoz becomes deputy minister of education;
Comrade Brigadier General Alemayehu Agonafr becomes deputy commissioner of the Defense Industry Commission;
Comrade Tilahun Abebe becomes principal administrator of Ilubabor region;
Comrade Molalign Belai becomes principal administrator of Gojam region.

277 Soviet Transportation Personnel Return Home

EA162119 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
1800 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Soviet air and land transportation personnel who have been helping out in the efforts to withstand drought recently returned home. During their stay in Revolutionary Ethiopia, these 277 air and land transportation experts transported 115,000 metric tons of grain and 218,000 people by air and land. [passage omitted]

Eritrean Liberation Front Appeals for Unity

LD141116 Kuwait KUNA in English 1040 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] Kuwait, March 14 (KUNA) — The Eritrean Liberation Front Saturday appealed for unity of factions fighting for the independence of the territory from Ethiopian occupation and strongly criticised present dissension 'which has prolonged the suffering of the Eritrean people and delayed its victory.'

The unity appeal was made on the eve of the 23d anniversary of the first battle fought by the Eritrean Liberation Army against

the Ethiopian Army in Tigoya, in the western plains of Eritrea on March 15, 1964.

A front statement issued here today also appreciated Kuwait's principled stand and consistent support to the Eritrean people and their liberation movement in all fields as well as the material and moral assistance extended by the world's freedom-loving forces.

The front strongly criticised leaders of dissension within Eritrean militant ranks, accusing them of 'trading in martyrs' blood and sacrifices', and appealed for reunity of guns and fighters to ensure continuity of national struggle and eventual victory of the cause.

Pledging to continue the struggle for a free and dignified life for the Eritrean individual, the front reiterated confidence that the people of Eritrea, who had been waging a war of liberation for nearly a quarter century and enduring hardships away from their homeland, can perform miracles and do away with divisions in their ranks.

KENYA

Moi Returns From Tour, Denies Torture Charges

EA171051 [Editorial Report]

Nairobi Domestic Service in Swahili at 0644 GMT on 17 March broadcasts a live relay from Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta Airport on President Daniel arap Moi's return home from a tour of the United States and Britain. The president describes his tour as a "success" and goes on to say: "I am happy about the outcome of this journey, particularly because we have been understood; we have been better understood."

The president goes on to dismiss allegations by the foreign press of torture in Kenya, particularly by immersion in water, saying: "Who could survive in water for 2 weeks? No one could survive for 10 hours, let alone 2 weeks. The passengers trapped when a British ferry sank did not survive more than 30 minutes."

President Moi also dismisses allegations that 300 people are being detained in Kenya. "Where are these detainees?" he asks. "We know about a few detainees, 10 or 11, and their records from 1965 show that they have been in and out of jail. In 1978, I personally released all of them in the belief that they harbored good intentions toward this country. When they came out, they behaved like pigs who soil themselves even after you have washed them."

On his visit to Washington, President Moi says he did not go there to solicit support. "If I want to be elected, I will solicit support from you, the people of Kenya," he says.

Turning to domestic matters, the president criticises "some ministries" which he describes as "in a coma," and says that he will "take steps."

The president also indicates that Kenya might revert to a 6-day work week. "When I announced the 5-day work week, I expected

that the move would help the workers," he says, "but I have noticed that it has generated a big controversy among the workers. It might, therefore, be better to revert to the former system. I ask the labor minister and union leaders to consider what is best to avoid wrangling."

UGANDA

President Denies Links With Sudanese Rebels

JN121435 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Mar (SUNA) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has said the Garang movement is a captive of the Ethiopian regime. He denied any connection between the Ugandan Government and the Garang movement and said that contacts that existed in the past have now completely ended.

The remarks were made in an interview with Museveni held during his visit to Libya last week and published today in *Al-Usbu'*. Museveni affirmed his government's support for Sudan's legal regime and political leadership.

Museveni stated to *Al-Usbu'* that he will visit Sudan soon to coordinate with Sudanese officials. He said all political and diplomatic channels between Sudan and Uganda will be opened to advance relations between them.

Museveni added that the Ugandan opposition has diminished as the Ugandan Government is pursuing a sound policy. He asserted that his government's new policy will respect legal regimes and fully supports the African and Arab peoples.

President Museveni paid a 3-day visit to Libya to attend the celebrations marking the anniversary of the proclamation of the people's power and the establishment of the first Jamahiriyah in history.

CHAD

Habre, Sudanese Group Discuss Khartoum Talks

AB171130 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
0530 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Excerpt] President Hissien Habre granted an audience to a Sudanese delegation led by Ahmad at-Tayib Humaydah, member of the Sudanese Democratic Union and former Sudanese ambassador to Chad yesterday afternoon.

President Hissien Habre discussed the failure of the Chad-Libya talks that took place in Khartoum and were held under the auspices of the Sudanese authorities. [passage omitted]

GUNT Statement Reacts to Mitterrand Position

LD151214 Tripoli JANA in English 1035 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] Bardai, Al-Marikh 15, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Mr Facho Balaam, the foreign minister of the legal Chadian Government of National Unity (GUNT), made a statement in reply to declarations by President Mitterrand of France and Gouar Lassou, the spokesman of the Ndjamena gangs. The statement was broadcast by Radio Bardai yesterday. The statement said: With great dismay, the GUNT listened to the statement of Gouar Lassou, the spokesman of Ndjamena gangs on the settlement of the Chadian internal conflict. With this statement, Ndjamena [words indistinct] borrowed the maladroitness of their French masters and more specifically the war statements made by the French president in which he asserted that there was no solution to the Chadian internal conflict except war.

France, in taking this stance, is implementing in Chad a war of domination and subjugation to new colonialism.... From here the Government of National Unity, the armed arm of the Chadian people, confronts the challenge presented by French imperialism and its local puppets in Ndjamena through the armed struggle until the whole Chadian territory is liberated [words indistinct] the GUNT reaffirms its principled stand supporting the decisions of the OAU regarding national reconciliation considering that the Chadian problem is an African issue whose solution lies in African will. [Words indistinct] weapons military had supplied by American and French imperialism to the traitors of Ndjamena, the Chadian people reaffirm their determination to continue the liberation struggle until victory and liberation of Chad from French military occupation and the restoration of sovereignty and independence.

The Government of National Unity takes national and world public [words indistinct] on the French-American scheme aimed at turning the internal conflict in Chad into an interregional conflict which may open the doors of Africa to [words indistinct] and the control of new colonialism.

The Government of National Unity is a political and military reality which asserts its presence at military level through the operations it executed against the bridge of Nahr Shari on 8/3/87 and against the French Transal transport aircraft on 9/3/87 as well as the battle waged by the forces of the National Liberation Army against the clique of Ndjamena in the areas of Morda.

UNIR Delegation Returns From PRC 14 March

AB171000 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
0530 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The delegation of the Central Committee of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR], which left for China on 22 February, returned to Ndjamena last Saturday [14 March]. The delegation was led by Comrade (Amarath Ademounacher), deputy commissioner for external affairs, who was accompanied by Comrade (Mahamat Iserat), 3d commissioner at the Ministry of National Education, and (Dono Rorat), member of the Central Committee.

The delegation delivered a message from President Hissien Habre, founding chairman of the UNIR, to Zhao Ziyang, the general secretary of the CPC [passage indistinct] with the leaders of the CPC. [passage omitted]

PRC Group To Inspect Sites for Palace, Hospital

AB142202 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] A ten-member PRC delegation led by an official of the Ministry of Economic and Trade Relations With Foreign Countries arrived in Ndjamena this afternoon. The delegation, which will spend (72 days) in Chad, will inspect the sites for the construction of the people's palace and a hospital. This mission earlier visited Chad from 3 through 23 September last year.

ZAIRE

President Mobutu Returns From Cairo 16 March

AB161335 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French
1130 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, MPR founding chairman and president of the Republic, and his wife, Mama Bobi Ladawa, returned home this morning at 1015 local time through Gbadolite from Cairo, Egypt. The presidential couple was accorded a rousing reception upon their arrival. [passage omitted]

BURKINA FASO**Visa Rules Enforced for Visiting Foreigners**

AB162153 Paris AFP in French 2038 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Ouagadougou, 16 Mar (AFP) — The Burkinabe authorities decided on Monday morning [16 March] to enforce entry visa requirements on all foreigners not residing in Burkina Faso but visiting the country, observers in the Burkinabe capital, Ouagadougou, noted.

This decision to impose visa requirements, which was implemented without any public or official announcement from the Burkinabe immigration officials, came as a surprise to travelers whose passports were seized when they arrived at Ouagadougou airport. The travelers were informed that they had to report the next day at the public security head office with three photos.

The Ouagadougou police said it could not give any explanation for this measure. Observers note, however, that this new law was promulgated after the French Government decided to extend its visa requirement measures for all persons foreign to the European Community, and therefore falls in the framework of diplomatic rules of reciprocity.

Financing Agreements Signed With French Fund

AB161250 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Excerpts] This morning in Ouagadougou, the Burkinabe Government and the [French] Central Fund for Economic Cooperation [CCCE] signed three conventions on opening of credits. The Burkinabe side was represented by Comrade Talata Eugene Dondasse, the minister of financial resources, while the CCCE was represented by Roland Billecart, the fund's managing director. The three financing agreements, which involve a total amount of 7.415 billion CFA francs, will help implement development programs. The first convention totaling 4 billion CFA francs will help finance the reconstruction of the central market. [passage omitted]

The second convention concerns the Ouagarinter [Ouagadougou central bus station] rehabilitation project and involves a total amount of 3 billion CFA francs. The project is expected to improve Ouagarinter services.

As for the third convention, which involves 415 million CFA francs, it concerns the management of (?rural development funds) project, which will help create a coordinating unit responsible to the Presidency of Burkina Faso. This unit will be in charge of coordinating the preparations for the first phase of the national project for the management of (?rural funds). [passage omitted]

GAMBIA**Saudi Fund Grants \$3.2 Million Financial Aid**

AB161723 Paris AFP in French 1015 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Banjul, 16 Mar (AFP) — The Saudi Development Fund is to grant Gambia \$3.2 million to finance its structural program. This was announced by Mr (Husayn Bangi), the fund's deputy director.

Mr (Bangi) recalled that the Saudi Fund had already contributed \$15 million for financing several Gambian infrastructural projects, including the Yundum Airport south of the capital.

Saudi Arabia also financed, to the tune of \$3 million, the completion of the Banjul Central Mosque, which was abandoned by Libya following the break in its diplomatic relations with Gambia in 1980.

GHANA**Soviet Friendship Delegation Arrives for Visit**

AB170940 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] A three-member Soviet delegation is in Ghana for a week's visit at the invitation of the Ghana-USSR Friendship Society. The leader of the team, Dr Vladimir Loginov, told newsmen on arrival that the visit will enable them to exchange views with their Ghanaian counterparts on world issues, as well as the development of cultural links between Ghana and the Soviet Union.

According to Dr Loginov, the Soviet Union is aware of the serious threats facing mankind as a result of the spread of nuclear weapons and it is doing all it can to stop a nuclear holocaust through social and cultural exchanges.

While in the country, the delegation is expected to hold discussions with the government on a wide range of bilateral issues.

Ivorian Ambassador Delivers President's Message

AB131903 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] Chairman Rawlings today received a special message from President Houphouet-Boigny of Cote d'Ivoire at the Castle, Osu. The message was delivered by the Ivorian ambassador to Ghana. The secretary for information, Mr Kofi Totobi Quakyi, was present.

FRG Team Arrives, Pledges Continued Economic Aid

AB151549 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] A four-member delegation from West Germany is in Ghana for a week's visit during which it will inspect ongoing German-sponsored projects. The team will also hold consulta-

tions with the government on the annual bilateral economic cooperation meeting scheduled to take place in Accra next September.

The leader of the delegation, Mr H. Neufeld, told newsmen that there exists a comprehensive and vigorous cooperation between Ghana and West Germany. He said the current economic development in Ghana shows the willingness of her people to take their destiny into their own hands. Mr Neufeld gave the assurance that West Germany will continue to support Ghana's economic recovery program. He said West Germany is actively engaged in the rehabilitation of the Volta Lake transport project to ensure its successful completion. So far, the German Government has spent DM140 million on the project.

Mr Neufeld said the German Government is also helping in the rehabilitation works on the Sekondi-Takoradi-Cape Coast water supply project. Special attention will also be given to rural agricultural projects and the development of technical and vocational training programs.

While in the country, the delegation, which includes representatives from the German Government agency for financial and technical corporation, will visit the Western, Northern, and Volta regions.

Saudi Team Arrives for Loan Negotiations

*AB161444 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT
16 Mar 87*

[Text] A four-member delegation from the Saudi Fund for Development is in Ghana to finalize negotiations for a draft loan agreement. The leader of the delegation, (Husayn Bangi), told newsmen in an interview that the fund has earmarked about \$4 million for Ghana within the framework of its contribution to the World Bank Structural Credit Program for Sub-Saharan Africa. Saudi Arabia is contributing about \$100 million to the program involving some 20 countries in the region. Mr (Bangi) said the agreement is expected to be signed in 2 months' time, adding that disbursement of the money will start immediately and end by July next year. Saudi Arabia is currently financing or co-financing about five major projects in the country. These include the ports rehabilitation program, the construction of grain silos, and the Kpong irrigation project.

Meanwhile, a Ghanaian delegation led by the chief executive of the Volta River Authority, Louis Casely-Hayford, is currently in Riyadh to negotiate the financing of the electricity extension program for the Northern, Brong Ahafo, and Upper regions.

GRAPHIC Cites Soviet on Israeli Subversion

*AB131713 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT
13 Mar 87*

[From the press review]

[Text] The *Graphic* carries an article by the *Novosti Press Agency* culled from the book, *Israel Challenges Africa* by Mr Vladimir (Guluvar), a Soviet journalist and author.

The book exposes Israel's subversive activities against African countries. In it, the author says the Israeli secret intelligence agency, Mossad, has been involved with subversive activities against Ghana. He says the role of Israel is military and that the Mossad is stirring up conflicts among African states cannot be overemphasized and is an affront to the independence of African countries.

The author says Israel was responsible for conflicts between Sudan and Libya during Numayri's regime and between Somalia and Ethiopia. He adds that Israel's active participation in the present conflict in Chad and its direct aid to counterrevolutionary groups in Angola and Mozambique are well-known.

NIGERIA

Government Continues To Act Against Unrest

Babangida Addresses Nation

*AB162246 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT
16 Mar 87*

[Address by Nigerian Head of State Major General Ibrahim Babangida to the nation on religious disturbances on 16 March — live or recorded]

[Summary from Poor Reception] "Fellow Nigerians, in the early hours of (76) March, 1987," I addressed you on the situation in the country. A few days after that broadcast, a number of incidents have reoccurred. Agitation and religious upheavals on educational campuses and colleges of education in (?Bauchi), Kaduna State, have resulted in many students being wounded and property being damaged.

In the middle of last week, we saw another wave of violence in Kaduna State. Preliminary investigations have shown that "the wanton destruction of lives and property in Kaduna, Zaria, and other places in Kaduna State were carefully planned and masterminded" by religious fanatics. The Federal Military Government [FMG] has, therefore, decided to bring the situation under control by setting up an investigative panel and a judicial tribunal to identify, arrest, and bring to trial all those who have masterminded the banditry and murder committed against the people since the 5th of March 1987. "This government cannot and will not be intimidated by any persons or group of persons." The interest of the Nigerian nation has far greater importance than any group interest in the Nigerian society. This administration will not deviate from its commitment to freedom of worship for all Nigerians regardless of their origin and will not allow anything to divert that commitment. We appeal to our fellow countrymen, especially the young people, not to allow themselves to be used by disgruntled hopeless religious fanatics, who like to use them for their selfish ends. We have assured all religious bodies that "there will always continue to be freedom of religious association and worship without molestation or intimidation." "Any person or group disturbing that freedom will be regarded as an enemy of the nation and will be dealt with as such."

"In order to deal with the criminals and check the (?religious) uprising, the FMG has set up a judicial tribunal to try any

arrested in the criminal action. The tribunal shall have the power to try persons for various offenses including but not limited to arson, murder, rape, treason, and so on." In accordance with our policy, those to be tried by this tribunal will be free to employ the services of legal counsel to defend them. "Any appeal against the sentences of the tribunal will not be allowed; and before any such sentence is carried out, it will be reviewed and confirmed by the Armed Forces Ruling Council. The members of the tribunal are as follows: Honorable (Justice A.G. Karim-White), chairman; Colonel H.A. Mohamed, member; Alhaji Abdullahi Ibrahim, member; Mahamadu Obafir, member; Major (R.S. Ben Isaac), member. While the tribunal will be dealing with the criminal aspect of this incident, an administrative board of inquiry into the disturbances is to be established by the Kaduna State Government to assess the extent of damage." For some time now, we have witnessed a proliferation of religious associations and organizations in our educational institutions. This is spiritually and culturally negative. Ordinarily, the existence of such religious organizations on our educational institutions will be regarded as indicative of the youth becoming more religious and better citizens. However, such associations are merely (?fronts), because many of these religious associations on the campuses are using the youth to further their selfish ends.

"The FMG has decided to ban with immediate effect all preachings of religious associations and organizations in all institutions of higher learning including advanced teacher colleges, colleges of arts and science, polytechnics, and universities."

In addition to that, all Nigerians, are to continue to practice their religions in the normal recognized places of worship. "Finally, we wish to appeal to all Nigerians, whatever their religious association, to rally round the FMG in its effort to restore peace and harmony to our society." We assure all citizens that we will encourage them to continue to live where they like and embrace and practice any religion of their choice. We are willing to continue with our efforts at our economic recovery in peace and tranquility. "Thank you and good night."

Schools Closed in Sokoto

*AB161817 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] In another development, all post primary schools in Sokoto State have been closed. A statement by the state Ministry of Education said the action was necessitated by the presence of what it described as strange persons in the schools. It said the closure would forestall any breach of the peace.

Preaching Restricted in Bendel

*AB162032 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT
16 Mar 87*

[Text] All forms of open-air preaching have been banned in Bendel State until further notice. The government has also reviewed all religious programs on the electronic media in the state. The state governor, Colonel John Inienger, announced this today in Benin at a meeting with leaders of religious bodies. Danny Ije is on the line from Benin with the details:

[Begin recording] [Ije] [Words indistinct] The government took the decision in view of the present tension arising from religious disturbances in parts of the northern states. It is also to ensure the existing peace among the various religious organizations in the state. Colonel Inienger observed that the ban was in no way a curtailment of the freedom of religious worship; after all, all mosques and churches were still free to carry out their normal services on Fridays and Sundays. The governor, however, observed with joy that [words indistinct].

[Inienger] [Words indistinct] I want to draw a lesson from the atmosphere of religious tolerance that prevails in this state. So far, there has been no record of religious antagonism from any parts of the state. I will, therefore, commend all of you for this state of affairs. First will be to recognize that Nigeria, being a secular state, all religious organizations are free to worship in all approved places without any (?threats) or hindrance. We are aware that all religious teachings [words indistinct] the Bible or Koran stress that peoples should love their neighbors as themselves.

[Ije] Catholic Bishop of Benin Diocese, the Most Reverend (Botele Ekpo), responded on behalf of the Christian community to the governor's address. Bishop (Ekpo) commended the Federal Government for setting up a commission to probe the recent religious disturbances in Kaduna State. He hoped that the government would have the courage to bring the culprits to book, no matter what (?his god), to serve as a deterrent to others. Bishop (Ekpo) remarked that if there was to be progress and peace in the country, there must be mutual trust between the government and the governed. He condemned a situation where (?bad news) about the country were first heard in the BBC and not in Nigeria.

Responding on behalf of the Muslims, the chief imam of Benin, (Alhaji Ewa Atokete), urged the Federal Government to deal firmly with any person or group of persons who abused the much-cherished freedom of worship in the country. [end recording]

Schools to Reopen in Kaduna

*AB161805 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] All schools, closed in Kaduna State as a result of the recent crisis, will now reopen on Sunday, the 22d, and Monday, the 23d, of this month. Governor Abubakar Umar announced this today in a broadcast to the people of the state. Governor Umar noted that, apart from the religious [words indistinct], the crisis had political, social, and economic connotations. He remarked that the present administration had put up with more than what a military regime should tolerate. The governor appealed to the people to pray for peace and unity and expressed his condolence and sympathy over the loss of lives and property in the crisis.

In a meeting with community leaders earlier today, Governor Umar said the state government will come to the aid of those who suffered losses in the disturbances. The governor called on the people to shun rumor-mongering and assured the public of the safety of lives and property.

Curfew on Kaduna Lifted

*AB161743 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] The dusk to dawn curfew imposed on Kaduna State following the recent disturbances has been lifted. A statement by Governor Abubakar Umar, however, warned people in the state to be law-abiding. It said security forces will continue to patrol all key areas and vulnerable places while guard will also be maintained in such places.

Meanwhile, the committee to investigate the immediate and remote causes of the unrest is to be inaugurated on Thursday, 19th of this month. The committee has been enlarged to include the representatives of the Jama-Atul Nasril Islam, Christian Association of Nigeria, and a member of the State Civil Service Commission, Mr (Victor Ogon). (?Other members) are the state attorney general and commissioner for justice, Mrs (Hanten Tundi), chairman, and the garrison commander of the Nigerian Army, Major (Adedimo), and a representative of the Nigeria police. Others include Dr Ahmadu Bello of Zaria, permanent secretary [words indistinct]; Alhaji Nasaru Ibrahim Hara, commissioner for information; with (Malam Dare Suleman) (?serving) as secretary.

The committee has been given a month during which to submit its report.

Meeting To Discuss 'Medium Powers' Group

AB152113 Dakar PANA in English 1400 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] Lagos, 15 March (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria is to host a consultative meeting of 16 countries to explore the idea of the "concert of medium powers", the brain-child of Nigerian external affairs minister, Bolaji Akinyemi.

According to a statement yesterday in Lagos by the Ministry of External Affairs, the three-day meeting beginning on Monday will bring together senior officials from Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Egypt, and India.

Other countries are Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Senegal, Sweden, Switzerland, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe, and host Nigeria.

The statement said that the proposed meeting is the outcome of a series of consultations in the last one year both at the bilateral and multilateral levels.

It said that informal and ministerial meeting of the participating countries also took place during the 41st session of the UN General Assembly in New York in September last year.

According to the statement, the consultative meeting would aim at exploring the idea of a concert of medium powers in all its ramifications in the interest of fostering greater international dialogue and cooperation.

Akinyemi had persistently called for an organization of medium powers to play a "credible mediatory role in critical issues of peace and security as well as act as an honest [words indistinct] crisis, and become in [word indistinct] peace".

The proposed organization, Akinyemi said, at a news conference last November, would complement the Nonaligned Movement.

He added that the (?proposed group would) [word indistinct] remove the present seeking abdication of the prevention and resolution of crises to the two superpowers by the international community.

Oil Official Reaffirms Commitment to OPEC

*AB141509 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 14 Mar 87*

[Text] Nigeria has reemphasized her continued support for OPEC. A spokesman for the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC, Mr Alex Nwokedi, said the country's commitment was drawn from the fact that OPEC remained the hope of the developing countries in a North-South arrangement. Mr Nwokedi was speaking at the reception for Mr Tunji Useni, editor in chief of *OPEC News Agency*, OPECNA, who was touring Nigeria's oil installations. Mr Useni expressed the need for the Third World to catch up with the industrialized nations, which he believed, had overwhelming fear of OPEC.

He proposed a global cooperation in the energy sector and advised the media of the developing nations to be wary of reports about OPEC from their foreign counterparts. Mr Useni also called on media practitioners to redress the current imbalance in the global flow of information.

ANGOLA

Gilashvili-Led Soviet Delegation Arrives

*MB161728 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] Pavel Gilashvili, vice president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived in Luanda today for a 3-day visit which, according to him, is prompted by a desire to develop bilateral relations. Pavel Gilashvili said his delegation was not only going to examine parliamentary activity in Angola and the USSR, but also give information to Angolan deputies on efforts being carried out to implement the guidelines laid down at the last CPSU congress to revive political, socioeconomic, and intellectual life.

The head of the Soviet delegation expressed a desire to familiarize himself with our country's development (and noted that) in the resistance struggle against internal and external enemies, we can count on the solidarity of the Soviet people. Talks between the Soviet delegation and an Angolan People's Assembly delegation will begin this afternoon shortly after a meeting between Pavel Gilashvili and People's Assembly First Secretary Lucio Lara. Meetings are also expected with External Relations Minister Afonso van Dunem Mbinda and a group of deputies in Luanda Province's People's Assembly.

UNITA Condemns Foreign Troops Presence

*MB170638 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern
and Central Africa 0600 GMT 17 Mar 87*

[Text] Free Land of Angola — The Angolan resistance movement UNITA has urged the international community to condemn the presence of all foreign forces in the country as a condition for guaranteeing lasting peace in Angola. According to a declaration of the UNITA Political Bureau to mark the movement's twenty-first anniversary, UNITA said the presence of foreign troops in the country was internationalising the Angolan conflict.

The statement strongly condemned the executions in Benguela on March 4 of four Angolans accused by the MPLA regime of being UNITA members. It deplored with indignation the silence of the international public opinion, and especially human rights organization, to the crimes being committed against the Angolan people by the Soviet-backed MPLA regime. It also denounced all manoeuvres aimed at unilaterally annulling the Alvor Accords, which is still the only valid document for bringing about peace and reconciliation in Angola.

UNITA's ability to resist against Soviet imperialism for the past 11 years is a confirmation of its popular support among the greater majority of the Angolan people. The statement reaffirmed UNITA's determination to intensify the armed struggle until the complete realisation of the peoples objectives.

MOZAMBIQUE

Armed 'Bandits' Kill 5 in Machava Area 14 March

*MB170830 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 17 Mar 87*

[Text] Five people died in the area of Machava, in Maputo Province, last Saturday [14 March], as a result of an attack carried by armed bandits at night. Three other people were seriously injured and a number of residents were kidnapped by the armed bandits during this attack. Two shops and a number of houses were also looted. In the wards of Sao Damaso and Cingatela, the criminals looted two shops which had just received agricultural production and supply goods.

'Bandit' Cabo Delgado Intelligence Head Gives Up

*MB161924 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] An armed bandit, Cabo Delgado Province's self-proclaimed head of intelligence, surrendered himself to the FPLM Armed Forces in January. Armando Augusto Beira, born in Tica, Nhamatanda District, Sofala Province, joined the ranks of the armed bandits in 1981. He was part of the first group of armed bandits which infiltrated themselves into Cabo Delgado in 1984. He ordered the murder of more than 50 defenseless peasants and sent military information and information on the operations he carried out to Gorongosa District where the main bandit camp was located. Armando Beira told journalists of Radio Mozambique that he had made the decision to hand himself over to our army because of the climate of instability and hunger.

Bomb Kills Two, Injures Three in Maputo

*MB161814 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 16 Mar 87*

[Text] Two people were killed and three others injured by a bomb in Matola suburb in the outskirts of Maputo city last Friday [13 March]. They are Miguel Songane, chief of a block, and his son Celestino Miguel. The bomb exploded in their house at about 2200. The house was also destroyed. According to relatives, the bomb was put by a friend of Celestino who came to Maputo on Wednesday from Swaziland and left the same day when the explosion occurred. The suspected killer is Antonio, whom Celestino knew in Swaziland.

SOUTH AFRICA

Prof de Lange Denies Favoring Talks With ANC

*MB161012 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0957 GMT
16 Mar 87*

[Text] Johannesburg March 16 SAPA — Broederbond Chairman Prof Pieter de Lange today denied a *Washington Post* report that he was in favour of negotiations with the African National Congress. I would state clearly that I am not in favour

of negotiations with the ANC as long as they insist that power must be handed over to them and as long as they employ violent means to achieve this end, he told SAPA.

The Post today quoted Prof de Lange as saying he supported meetings with the banned African National Congress to end the country's current crisis and that he has already talked to some leading ANC members when he visited New York last year. Today Prof de Lange denied that he supported meetings with the ANC to end the current crisis.

He said he believed the newspaper had wrongly interpreted his remarks that he wanted to encourage dialogue to prevent a takeover in South Africa by extremists. Asked by *The Post* if this meant he would exclude the ANC from a final settlement, the newspaper had quoted him as responding, "I am not excluding them as actors in the struggle for the future."

"But I want the middle spectrum to come forward with greater initiative and become the major force in deciding the future."

Prof de Lange said today that these were accurate quotations of his remarks, but they had been misinterpreted.

Minister Rejects Talks With ANC Internal Wing
MB170727 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
 0500 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] The minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, has rejected a claim by the independent candidate for Helderberg, Dr Denis Worrall, that negotiations are possible with the internal wing of the ANC because, contrary to the external wing of the organization, it rejects violence. Speaking at a meeting in Cape Town gardens last night, he said the internal wing was no less bloodthirsty than the external wing of the ANC. He posed the question as to whom been responsible for the so-called necklace murders, the maiming and killing of many people and the destruction of property valued at millions of rands in South Africa, if the internal wing of the ANC didn't condone violence.

Dr Worrall told an election meeting at Gordon's Bay that he and the two other independent candidates of Randburg and Stellenbosch didn't believe that it was possible to negotiate with people committed to violence. He said that the ANC, which was not only present in Lusaka and in Paris but in South Africa as well, was a factor to be reckoned with. Dr Worrall said that it was important to get a process of negotiation going that would be so strong that those who participated in it would be committed to peaceful change.

Government Reacts to Worrall Criticism of Vlok
MB170818 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
 16 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by C. Ryan]

[Text] The Government has launched a personal attack on Helderberg independent candidate Dr Denis Worrall — because he accused the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, of

"giving himself permission" to quote the banned ANC selectively on SATV.

Mr Alwyn Schlebusch, minister in the office of the State President for administration and broadcasting, in a statement said of Dr Worrall: "Shortly before he left Britain, a newspaper referred to him as a 'white knight'. This seems to have fuelled his natural arrogance. My advice to him is that he must realise as soon as possible that he is simply an ordinary candidate in an election. When he realises this, he will have reached political adulthood."

Dr Worrall had said the SABC was guilty of "political corruption" and of selectively quoting the ANC for the sake of NP propaganda.

Mr Schlebusch said Dr Worrall's claims were "scandalous and an undeserved accusation against the SABC's top management and employers."

In a speech in Witbank last week Mr Vlok quoted a banned ANC spokesman, Mr Alfred Nzo.

The Conservative Party's candidate for Krugersdorp has also criticised Mr Vlok for "trying to use the same malevolent cunning employed by the NP before the referendum when they brought the ANC into their campaign to con the voters into voting yes."

Dr Worrall said today the independents would be making a formal approach to the SABC "for an opportunity to respond" to Mr Vlok's statement.

In response to Mr Schlebusch's attack, Dr Worrall said: "It is an old adage that when someone cannot face the arguments, they blame the man. 'If there are good reasons for not publicising ANC statements in South Africa, these are reasons of state. When a deviation from this rule is made it must be for reasons of national interest. This is clearly not the case in Mr Vlok's case. Mr Vlok's release of the statement is an attempt at discrediting the independents. It is therefore party politics and in doing so he has acted extremely irresponsibly.'"

Information Bureau Issues 16 Mar Unrest Report
MB171103 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1055 GMT
 17 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria March 17 SAPA — Following is the unrest report for the period 00h1 to 24h00 yesterday issued by the Bureau for Information.

"The home of Mr M. Nanabel in Azaadville (Krugersdorp) was set alight by unidentified persons last night. Serious damage was caused to the house. No injuries or arrest were reported. Police investigation is continuing.

"Unidentified persons threw a petrol bomb at the Botheheuwel post office (Cape Town) last night causing extensive damage to the building. No injuries or arrests have been reported.

"A light delivery vehicle was virtually destroyed when it was rocked by an explosion in Buccleuch (Johannesburg) last night. No injuries or arrests have been reported following this incident and SAP forensic experts have already commenced their investigation to establish the type and origin of explosives used.

"Three explosions occurred on the railway line between Newcastle and Johannesburg in the industrial area about three kilometres outside Newcastle yesterday. Police have confirmed that plastic explosives were used although the type and origin have not yet been established. No injuries or arrests have been reported.

"Other unrest-related incidents reported during the above mentioned period comprised isolated stonings which resulted in minimal damage. No injuries or arrests have been reported following these incidents.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB170640 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN: NP Only Vehicle for Change

"Only the NP is really fighting this election to win," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 16 March. "The others are looking to establish a strong base for challenging the NP in 1989, when the next election is due to be held for all three Houses of Parliament. However, the thought is beginning to strike some political pundits that there might not be an election for the White House of Assembly in 1989, since the government might alter the Constitution again." The paper further says that "Afrikaners have good reason to steer clear of the PFP, as Mr Horace van Rensburg has found some elements in the party who are anti-Afrikaner. Besides, the PFP is the political arm of English-speaking Big Business. The CP, too, has shown, by the jettisoning of a proposed pact with the HNP, that this election is not the vital one and that it has its eye on the 1989 election, when it hopes to be the sole right-wing party." "The NP deserves to be supported by all who believe in moderation and reform."

STAR on Supervision of Reform

"Though influx control is supposed to have been abolished in mid-1986, the position of blacks in urban areas is apparently at least as bad as it was," says a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 16 March. "The political debate has tended to move on to other issues, on the assumption that reforms already agreed to are being implemented. That was a premature judgment, it would seem. Change comes with greater difficulty and must be supervised every inch of the way." "Identity checks have replaced pass raids. Housing is not available even for those who have the documentation. Workers suffer under deplorable employment practises by employers, who by and large have done nothing to act in the spirit of reform."

BUSINESS DAY Opposes FCI-ASSOCOM Merger

"The sorry mess in which the Federated Chamber of Industries (FCI) finds itself has led to suggestions that the time is ripe for a merger between it and the Association of Chambers of Commerce, Assocom," says Johannesburg *Business Day* in English

on 16 March in a page 4 editorial. "The idea that the private sector should speak with one voice is a seductive one, spawned in a typically South African belief in the strength of unity. But it overlooks the very real differences that exist. The private sector is not a single entity, but a diverse collection of pressure groups whose interests only sometimes coincide. That is the way it should be."

CAPE TIMES Ridicules Heunis Group Areas Claim

A page 14 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 13 March says: "So Mr Chris Heunis believes that the Group Areas Act is the only defence against communism. What unadulterated drivel! What makes such an inane assertion scary rather than amusing is that it comes from none other than chief architect of the country's constitutional future." "One thing is clear: As long as Mr Heunis holds a pivotal position in the National Party, the Group Areas Act will remain."

Government Fails on Reform Promises

"The very fact that this country's previous ambassador to London has come back to fight an election against the government that put him there has always struck us as one of the most incredible indictments conceivable of National Party policy," notes a second editorial on the same page. "Dr Denis Worrall was, of course, uniquely placed to act as both a sounding board for and purveyor of government thinking. It stands to reason that he should be listened to, for example, when he said in Stellenbosch earlier this week that the government's failure to act on its promises has had a very serious impact on influential British businessmen." "South Africans are no longer prepared to be taken in by the 'trust us, we know what's best for you' line. They have been taken for a ride just once too often."

SOWETAN on Forced Removals

"The counter-revolutionary campaign by the government to win the hearts and minds of the people is neatly negated when the state continues with forced removals in the rural areas," notes the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 16 March. "The government is engaging in an aggressive scheme to upgrade various urban townships, a measure which was in fact long overdue. Yet in the meantime the odious system of removing villagers from their ancestral homes continues."

RAPPORT Still Supports Free Speech

A page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *Rapport* in Afrikaans on 15 March says that *Rapport* takes the same stance it took in 1970 when it was founded: "Free speech must not end, so that South Africans can find each other, live and work for each other, especially now that we stand before the determining decision on how to include blacks in an acceptable political dispensation." The paper says that people may have different opinions to those of *Rapport* but people should not doubt *Rapport's* good intentions and justness."

Editor Criticizes 'Instant Solutions'

The new editor of *Rapport*, Bob van Walsem, writes in the "Briefly" column on the same page that "nothing can be further from the truth than that a 'solution' which can only be maintained through suppression and violence — and let there be no doubt about that — is in the best interests of the white South African. This solution is indeed nothing more than intellectually

avoiding a problem for which we do not have all the questions, let alone the answers." Walsam says that Treurnicht, Marais and Terreblanche should realise that "easy" instant solutions are not possible. But, easy solutions do not only come from the right wing. The independents are "throwing a few instant solutions of their own into the political arena and are asking for a blank check for their 'vision.'" "If whites want to have a place in the country without having to fight for it at every turn, there is only one thing to do: not to run away from a negotiation process of give and take where the method still has to be negotiated." Walsam hopes that the voters will increasingly "become aware of the pitfalls and dangers of the hands-up politics from the Left and the Right," and that they will "in the end look with new eyes to the NP." The NP does "not offer instant solutions" but it can say to the voters: "We do not have all the answers about reform and new visions, but perhaps we know a little more about it than most others."

CP To Place Reform in Reverse Gear

Anne-Marie Mischke writes on page 13 that: "We do not believe in a great gray world," says the leader of the CP, Andries Treurnicht. Thereby he excludes the world of the PFP. He also excludes the world of the NP, where group protection as well as equal powersharing of communal matters form the two legs of the party policy." Mischke says that if the CP is to come to power it will "throw the reform of the past few years into reverse gear." "The reverse gear process includes among others the following: Dr Treurnicht says provincial councils and authorities are unacceptable because they are mixed structures which will cause a power struggle in the long run; the tricameral parliament as it is is not reasonable, (under a CP leadership the Indian and colored houses will be developed into two separate parliaments where the two groups will rule over their own affairs in their own areas); blacks will also lose their South African citizenship and influx control will be reinstated." As far as blacks are concerned, "it does not mean that those who are living permanently in South Africa will be sent to their homelands. What will happen under CP rule is that a linkage policy will exist. The black person who stays in a white area will be linked to his homeland and that is where he will practise his political rights." "We are not going to try to manage the internal affairs of other groups, but we do demand acknowledgement of the existence and the right of the whites to their own government," says Treurnicht.

BEELD on ANC Support

"The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, says the ANC wants to use the division in the Afrikaner ranks to the advantage of its own revolutionary aims," says a page 8 editorial of Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 16 March. "Immediately after the minister made this announcement there were persons who said the NP was trying to win votes for this election with its scare stories about the ANC. But, its declared policy is one of violent revolution in South Africa. Whoever denies this or ignores warnings in this connection, closes his eyes to the real danger which threatens the country and all its people." The paper points out that the struggle against the ANC cannot only be won militarily but that "evolutionary reform is necessary for a better dispensation for all. That is what the government is trying to accomplish, even if the tempo is not to everyone's satisfaction. This reform needs support, and not organized attempts to break it down. Those who want to divide the government must think

earnestly whether they are not perhaps playing into the hands of the enemy."

NAMIBIAN on Military Intimidation

"There is mounting concern throughout the country at continuing and even increasing incidents of intimidation and assault on members of the civilian population in northern Namibia," notes the page 12 editorial in Windhoek *The Namibian* in English on 13 March. "There are numerous incidents of such intimidation, harassment and brutal assaults on members of the civilian population by the various security forces in the north — many confirmed incidents reported in this newspaper apparently going unnoticed and ignored by the authorities. In most cases there is never a response from the authorities, even when a response is sought by this newspaper." It is time that "the interim government, which makes a publicity stunt of their so called Bill of Fundamental Rights, reacts to these consistent and often-reported human rights violations." The paper calls on the authorities and the administrator general to "seriously investigate these allegations and put an end to what is rapidly approaching a situation of a 'reign of terror' by the military."

Lister Opposes Ethnic Elections

On page 14 Gwen Lister writes in the "Political Perspective" column on Christian Democratic Action Party leader Peter Kalangula's decision to hold "ethnic" elections in northern Namibia. Lister says it is in the first place impossible "under the prevailing circumstances" for the people of the north to "exercise a 'free and fair' vote; in the second place, an election without SWAPO participation would hardly accurately gauge the feelings of the people of that area; in the third place, Mr Kalangula risks pitting his forces against the massive state machinery of the South African Government, which will undoubtedly go into operation on behalf of the DTA if such an election takes place." "Hopefully, Mr Kalangula is going to seriously re-examine his stance. One has understanding for his desire to prove the fact that the interim government does not represent the people of his region; but his stance in favour of an ethnic election would also seriously conflict with his self-proclaimed attitude in favor of the implementation of Resolution 435."

ZIMBABWE

Radio Truth Hits Aid to Frelimo, Arms Purchases

Aid to Mozambique 'To No Avail'

MB161908 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Tanzanians are implementing their decision to become more active in the Mozambican civil war. At one time the TPDF [Tanzanian People's Defence Force] had some 1,500 to 2,000 troops involved in Mozambique. But, at the end of 1985, the bulk of this force was withdrawn to police the Ugandan border. Only 120 instructors and logistics personnel were left behind. Following Chissano's visit to Tanzania, it was agreed that a new task force would be dispatched to Mozambique to defend important bases in Zambezia Province, especially where the mine

is. The advance party is already in position. When fully deployed, the Tanzanian force will take over defensive duties from FAM [Mozambican Armed Forces] theoretically to allow the FAM to conduct more offensive operations against Renamo, though FAM capacity and will to do this is open to question.

In a reverse situation, the Indian Government of Rajiv Gandhi has decided to turn down Comrade Mugabe's request to provide troops and air cover to prop up Frelimo. They have recognized the dangers of getting bogged down in a conflict on foreign soil. As the Americans found in Vietnam, the Russians in Afghanistan, and as the Syrians have discovered in Lebanon, it is all too easy to get into a war situation, but a very difficult job to extricate one's forces from a losing or stalemate set of circumstances. Gandhi has come to the conclusion that discretion is the better part of valor. In any case, he has too many commitments already in the Punjab, and on the Pakistan and China borders.

Comrade Chissano has another king-sized problem. He is desperately in need of more arms of war, but the normal suppliers in the Soviet bloc have become thoroughly disenchanted with the performance of his Armed Forces, and do not see the point of throwing good money after bad. To overcome this difficulty, the Frelimo leader has asked Comrade Mugabe to arrange for military aid from the so-called nonaligned states. Ostensibly the armaments would be for use by the ZNA [Zimbabwe National Army], but in practice, they would be rerouted to the Frelimo army, presumably at cost. It is the same sort of conduit that has been set up for the ANC, where Zimbabwe is being used as a funnel through which Soviet weapons will be channeled via Libya. In the case of Mozambique, the original sources of supply will be less than happy when they discover that their weapons of war are being abandoned by FAM troops in every contact with Renamo.

All these reinforcements of many materials will be to no avail in any case. There is no final military solution to the civil war, and in the end we come back to Kaunda's assertion that antagonists must negotiate.

Officials in USSR To Buy Arms

MB162000 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English
to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Following on our Friday broadcast on the use of Zimbabwe as a conduit in the supply of Soviet bloc weaponry to southern

Africa comes the news report that a high-powered mission from our country is in Moscow to negotiate the purchase of sophisticated military equipment.

Maurice Nyagumbo and Emmerson Munangagwa are said to be heading up a team to discuss a deal alleged to be worth several hundred million dollars. Items to be purchased from the Soviet arsenal may well include military aircraft, [word indistinct] system, plus basic armaments and ammunition.

If this report is confirmed, it is probable that some of the material is for the ZNA [Zimbabwe National Army], some for the Mozambican Armed Forces to fulfil covertly Comrade Chissano's request to Robert Mugabe, and the balance for transfer to the terror wings of the ANC and PAC. It is indicative of ZANU-PF's wrong headed priorities that a deal of this nature should even be discussed when commerce and industry are being crippled by a lack of foreign exchange. It shows up our government's obsession with war and confrontation at the expense of our economy and the well-being of this nation's citizens. We are already being compelled to support financially an army that is far larger than we need and yet still expanding. Our forces are well equipped with aircraft, including fighters from China, helicopters, tanks, guns and armored fighting vehicles. There is no internal challenge to make use of more than a fraction of the arms strength we already possess. And as we repeated time and again, there is no real external threat to our sovereignty. The South African boogie is no more than a political gimmick created by ZANU-PF in an effort to justify this insane expansion of our military base.

As far as the Mozambican civil war is concerned, we should never have got involved in the first place, and the sooner we opt out and let the Mozambicans settle their own affairs the better. In a BBC interview, Eddison Zvobgo was asked to explain government thinking behind the proposed introduction of national service. With tongue in cheek, he referred to the mythical full-scale invasion by South Africa. When challenged as to whether the ruling patry really believed the invasion theory, he hedged his bets and replied: Well, yes and no. As a lame excuse he added that South Africa has nourished the MNR and would try the same in Zimbabwe. Of course, Zvobgo deliberately failed to mention that since the signing of the Nkomati Accord, there has been no hard evidence of continued South African support for Renamo. In truth, all our minister of justice was trying to do is maintain the war phobia at a pitch to deflect attention from all the serious problems inflicted on us by ZANU-PF policies and drum beating.